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TIME-TABLE

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.	to 8.00 a.m.	Every	15 minutes
8.00 "	to 10.00 "	"	10 "
10.00 "	to 11.00 "	"	15 "
11.30 "	to 12.45 p.m.	"	15 "
12.45 p.m.	to 1.15 "	"	10 "
1.15 "	to 1.45 "	"	15 "
1.45 "	to 2.15 "	"	10 "
2.15 "	to 5.00 "	"	15 "
5.00 "	to 8.00 "	"	10 "

NIGHT CARS.

8.50 p.m. and 9.00 p.m., 9.30 to 11.00 p.m. Every Half Hour.
1.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. Every Quarter Hour.

SUNDAYS.

7.30 a.m.			
8.00 "	to 10.30 a.m.	Every	15 minutes.
10.30 "	to 11.00 "	"	10 "
11.30 "	to 12.00 noon	"	15 "
12.00 noon	to 1.00 p.m.	"	10 "
1.00 p.m.	to 5.30 "	"	15 "
5.30 "	to 6.00 "	"	10 "
6.00 "	to 6.30 "	"	15 "
6.30 "	to 8.00 "	"	10 "

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

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KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

TIME-TABLE.

On and after WEDNESDAY, 12th DECEMBER, 1917, until further Notice.

DOWN TRAINS.

Stations	No. 5 Through Express. a.m.	No. 1 Local. a.m.	No. 9 Through Slow. a.m.	No. 13 Local. a.m.	No. 15 Through Express. p.m.	No. 17 Local. p.m.	No. 19 Local. p.m.	No. 21 Local. p.m.
CANTON (Tai Sha Tau) ... dep.	7.25		8.30		3.20			
SHEK LUNG ... dep.	9.40		11.16		4.35			
Shum Chun ... dep.	10.56	8.06	4.33	11.45	6.20	5.20	6.30	6.00
Sheung Shui ... dep.	—	8.13	4.37	11.53	—	5.57	6.35	6.07
Fanling ... dep.	—	8.18	4.41	11.56	—	5.40	6.40	6.12
Taipo Market ... dep.	—	8.23	4.53	12.03	—	5.49	6.45	—
Taipo ... dep.	—	8.28	4.58	12.11	—	5.53	6.51	6.21
Shatin ... dep.	—	8.44	5.12	12.34	—	6.04	—	—
Yuenmati ... dep.	—	8.50	5.18	12.38	—	6.15	—	—
Hung Hom ... dep.	—	8.58	5.28	12.46	—	6.20	—	—
KOWLOON ... arr.	11.05	9.03	5.30	12.48	7.00	6.22	7.10	6.45

Sats., Suns. and Public Holidays excepted.

Sats., Suns. and Public Holidays only.

UP TRAINS.

Stations	No. 4 Local. a.m.	No. 6 Through Express. a.m.	No. 8 Through Slow. a.m.	No. 10 Local. a.m.	No. 14 Local. p.m.	No. 16 Local. p.m.	No. 18 Through Express. p.m.	No. 20 Local. p.m.	No. 22 Local. p.m.
Last Ferry leaves ... H.K.	6.35	7.55	8.18	10.18	1.16	1.25	2.35	5.06	4.35
KOWLOON ... dep.	6.50	8.05	8.30	10.36	1.32	1.42	2.50	5.18	4.50
Hung Hom ... dep.	6.54	—	8.36	10.45	1.33	1.52	—	5.23	4.54
Yuenmati ... dep.	7.00	—	8.43	10.49	1.38	1.59	—	5.27	4.59
Shatin ... dep.	7.11	—	8.49	10.59	1.48	2.09	—	5.33	5.11
Taipo ... dep.	7.22	*	10.00	11.04	2.01	2.21	*	5.39	5.24
Taipo Market ... dep.	7.27	—	10.15	11.08	2.06	2.25	—	5.56	5.27
Fanling ... dep.	7.37	—	10.22	11.17	2.14	2.34	—	6.04	5.35
Sheung Shui ... dep.	7.40	—	10.25	11.20	2.18	2.37	—	6.07	5.38
Shum Chun ... arr.	7.45	—	—	11.25	2.22	2.41	—	6.12	5.45
SHEK LUNG ... dep.	—	8.50	11.00	—	—	—	3.35	—	—
CANTON (Tai Sha Tau) ... arr.	—	11.45	2.25	—	—	—	5.33	—	—

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		a.m.	a.m.	p.m.			a.m.	p.m.	p.m.
Fanling	dep	8.30	11.25	2.50	Shataukok	dep.	10.00	1.20	5.00
Shataukok	arr.	9.15	12.20	3.50	Fanling	arr.	11.00	2.20	6.00

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Water on Blocks at Spring Tide ...	26 "	24	44 "

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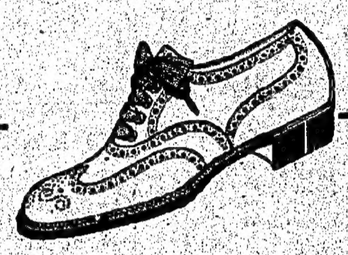

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THE NATIONAL MISSION.

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP NORRIS TO HONGKONG.

The following address from Bishop Norris, of Peking, was read by the Bishop of Victoria in St. John's Cathedral on the anniversary of the commencement of the National Mission.

PEKING, November 1917.

To all who shared in the "National Mission's" beginning in 1916. My dear Friends,—For many of us made friends last year, thanks to the generous warmth of your welcome to a stranger, and your forbearance towards a messenger most unworthy of his message.

I cannot let the anniversary of these happy meetings come round and pass by us without an effort to recall to you as well as to myself something of what God showed us then, something of what we saw to be ideal, something of what we hoped would be possible. For such recollection will lead to reflection; and as we look back we shall find cause for thankfulness—which spells encouragement; and for heart-searchings—which may shame us into fresh effort.

I want you once more to stand with me by the side of my favourite "bottomless" tarn and look into its depths for vision. I want you to ask yourselves how far in the year that has elapsed you have "filled your water pots up to the brim." I want to ask you where you have been throwing your nets. Have you launched out with the deep? Or have you gone back to the old shallows which proved barren before? In a word, have you been in *earnest*, and what like has been your *faith*?

And then I want to ask how far we have tried to keep God's purpose before our minds. Some of you will remember perhaps my reference to Richard Furlong, the engraver, and his friend, Mr. Tubbs, the picture-frame maker: and perhaps you have for a while forgotten the moral of the story? Let me remind you then: God is always printing proofs. We men stand by. It is always possible we shall catch sight of the perfect thing, God's purpose: and then it will be worth while for us to sacrifice all we have and are to obtain it for our own." Have you caught sight of it? Did you get a vision of it at all last December? And if so have you made the necessary sacrifice to make it your own?

Because only so far as each one of us does that can we be said to be working for God's purpose for our Nation. You remember what that is?

England, my England, turn to thy God!
Thou'rt Christian in name; be Christian in deed.

Vain were thy victory, thy shed blood,
If thou failest thy God in the hour of His need.
God needs thee, but not as thou wast in thy pride;
'Tis His world not thine 'neath the tyrant's rod:
Repent, be converted, and fight on God's side,
Lose the world for thyself but win it for God.

A Christian England! "Only possible if personal religion becomes an ethical force in the nation." If it was true a year ago that events were forcing upon us the conviction that God matters, is it not a hundredfold more true to-day? Think of Russia, of Italy, and the rumours, probably true enough, that Germany is desperately anxious for a separate peace with some of her enemies at least if she cannot force a general peace with all. I think of our disappointed hopes, of the strong probability that the war may yet last for years, that the strain of the past three years may be intensified to a degree that seemed impossible a year ago. Think of the children of whom we said "Thank God they are too young," and who are hurrying on to the age when we shall have to let them go with the bravest looks and words we can summon to hide our anguished hearts!

Do not all these things confront us in irresistible array to force upon us again the conviction that God matters: that it is God alone that matters; for that it is only God who can give peace on earth? And if so, does it not drive us on to ask how *We* stand in God's sight: each one of us, the responsible child of a moral God, sojourning here for a while only, carelessly or fearfully (which is but good English for reverently), taking life seriously or vainly remembering or forgetting that we were redeemed by the blood of Christ. How do we stand to-day? I cannot help remembering, even as I write the question again, that I asked it first on the morning of the second Sunday of the Mission. And what was the answer then? "We stand, my brethren, at our prison gates face to face with the future, prisoners set free, prisoners of hope." I ventured then to say of us that we stood outside the dungeon of our selfishness—but I warned you that we could fall back unless we turned to the stronghold, to religion that binds us to Christ and to each other. How do we stand to-day?

Outside the sermons which I was allowed to preach to you in the Cathedral on the Sundays of the Mission, my work fell mainly along three lines: the Men's meeting in the Public Hall, the addresses to women in the afternoons, and the three evening meetings in the Theatre. I do not wish to attempt to go over again the ground covered then. But as I recall to myself the substance of what I tried to say, one or two points stand out with sufficient clearness to encourage me to remind you of them, as a help to answering the question, How do we stand to-day?

And first, the attendance at these men's meetings! I shall never forget it, because it was such a wonderful encouragement: you knew nothing about me, you were not drawn thither to hear a well-known orator or famous preacher; you came because you were interested in the questions raised. I think I may dare even to say you came because you were in earnest *then*. You really wished to know why God did not stop the war; and some of you did not wholly approve the answer I gave. Well, He has not stopped it yet, and I believe more firmly than ever to-day in the truth of what I said then, that God will only stop the war when it has done its work, when we have learnt our lessons, yes, and when we have forsaken our sins, selfishness, carelessness, self-indulgence, and "play the game" of Christianity as it ought to be played. Unless—which God forbid—we refuse to learn, unless through our self-willed pride we make all the sacrifices, all the sufferings of God and man of none effect. But that will not prove Christianity to be played out: it will only prove we are not Christians. And God forbid that this should be true!

If we want to know how we stand let us take stock once more of our private prayers, of the part we take in our common prayers in Church, of our business dealings, of our efforts to carry the "Consciousness of God" into our daily lives, their work and their recreations.

Secondly, if the men encouraged me by their attendance at the Theatre Royal I am not unlikely to forget the earnestness of the women who came to the Cathedral evening after evening, who thronged the big room at the Helena May Institute on the Wednesday. I would fain remind those who listened then how we traced together the dangers of thoughtlessness, of carelessness, of the slavery of fashion, of how we sought for an ideal to set before us, of how we found it in the Blessed Mother of Our Lord. "You women," as my friend in India had said, "are, and always must be the most powerful influence in our lives." We saw the need of discipline to strengthen our lives, of an ideal of goodness rather than of popularity or leadership, to make our influence an uplifting force, and, lastly, as we dwelt on the memory of her who shall for ever be "blessed among women," we saw the need of holiness: "the sense of God's touch upon her, of God's presence with her, seeming to pervade the very atmosphere in which she moves." She must "reflect the Holiness of God."

Where do we stand as regards these things? What signs are there as compared with a year ago, of greater discipline in our lives? Of a real effort to aim at nothing less than goodness? Of constant seeking the face of God and of His Son Jesus Christ, that so we may catch the reflection of His Holiness?

Thirdly—and I have deliberately put last the recollection of those mass meetings in the Theatre, because they seemed to me to express so clearly the sense of a National Mission. I would earnestly ask you to go back to those messages of Amos, of Malachi, of Isaiah, which seemed then, which are still so wonderfully appropriate to our needs. We are fighting for freedom to live, nationally: and Amos reminds us that if we would live we must seek the Lord. Why? Because while all else changes, passes, God remains, a rock amid the waves, a refuge in the storm, a friend in the hour of national need. Where? Not on the Cross, where the Son of God hung for a few short hours, but at the right hand of power where He lives for ever strong to help all those who seek Him! How? By looking for Him where He is likely to be found, by being ready to recognise Him when He meets us: Christ told His disciples they would find Him in "one of these little ones": Christ bids us as a nation to-day seek Him in succouring the smaller nations that have been too long and too fiercely oppressed by their stronger neighbours. To fight for Belgium, for Servia for Montenegro, for Poland, without a thought of national profit for ourselves is in truth to seek the Lord, and so seeking we shall live.

For, let us not forget it, God has loved us. "I have loved you, saith the Lord." That is the ground of the Divine appeal to us to-day, as it was in the days of Malachi. And we have been in danger of forgetting that love, because we have allowed our family life to be imperilled, our God-given "Day of remembrance" to be treated like any other day, our poor to be oppressed, our rich men to forget the joy of real generosity.

As a nation we are called to seek the Lord that we may live; as a nation we are reminded that God has loved us: as a nation, we are given to-day an opportunity unparalleled in the world's history of doing our duty to the world. And from Isaiah, the young Jewish noble fresh from his vision of God, of the call that came to him in the courtyard of the Temple at Jerusalem, we learnt something of what that duty is, which England owes to the world.

Forgive me if I end with one or two quotations from the words I spoke to you on that last Sunday evening, words in which I tried to sum up what I had learnt myself of the lessons of the National Mission.

"There is an honour, there is a supremacy, there is a leadership among nations as amongst men, which is based on the one foundation which cannot be taken from us against our will. . . . There is one thing which none can wrest from us, one thing which we can have and hold without exciting jealousy or envy or any enmity at all, the supremacy of goodness, which will draw the nations unto us."

"Wherever England goes, wherever she touches the world that knows not God, in India or in Africa, in China or the Islands of the sea, let her preach the word of God, let her carry it in her hand as a gift, let her prove it for what it is by her acts, sow it world wide, scatter it on the waters of the sea, and reap it in the Harvest of God."

"That we should make efforts here and now, to help our country to win the war, to rise to our Missionary responsibility, to lead higher holier lives, less selfish, more self-sacrificing, for 'I have loved you, saith the Lord.' Oh, my brethren, come ye let us walk in the light of the Lord."

FRANK L. NORRIS
(Bishop).

(Continued at top of next Column)

CANTON NEWS.

[BY COURTESY OF THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

CANTON, December 11th.

GENERAL LUK AND THE PRESIDENT.

General Luk Wing-ting has again wired to the Acting-President requesting him to convoke the former Senate, so that he may be appointed Li Yuen-hung's successor.

DR. WU TING-FANG.

Dr. Wu Ting-fang and Tong Shao-yi have requested the President to state whether he intends to use force against the South-West, as they learn that the Tientsin meeting has decided to fight, and, if the President approves that decision, they will not undertake peace negotiations.

It is reported that Dr. Wu Ting-fang has decided to return to Shanghai, as his efforts at mediation are not likely to be accepted. Tong Shao-yi will accompany him.

SWATOW AFFAIRS.

A message from Swatow states that General Mok King-yu has personally led his troops to the fighting zone at Chiu-chow. The gentry and merchants of Chiu-chow have jointly requested the Canton leaders not to fire on the city.

The authorities have received a telegram from various Tuchuns requesting them to stop their attack upon Chiu-chow and Fukien.

The authorities have offered a large reward for the arrest of Mok King-yu.

SERVICES' ENTERTAINMENT FUND.

The following subscriptions to the above fund have been received by the Treasurer during the week ending December 10th, and are gratefully acknowledged:—

F. C. Butcher	*	$ 5.00
J. R. Wood	§	25.00
"16 Campites at Golf" (by R. M. Henderson)	§	16.00
J. E. Stoneman	*	2.00
N. J. Stabb	*	20.00
A. G. Coppin	*	5.00
A. J. W. Rosser	*	5.00
W. A. Dowley	*	5.00
H. B. L. Dowbiggin	*	5.00
"A Monthly Subscriber"	*	5.00
P. C. Potts	*	5.00
T. J. Fisher	*	5.00
R. Hancock	*	5.00
T. Arthur	*	5.00
A. H. Skelton	*	10.00
Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.	*	10.00
W. C. F.	*	300.00
K. E. Greig	*	5.00
J. W. G.	*	5.00
A. H. Harris	*	5.00
W. J. D. (November-December)	*	10.00
A. H. C.	*	10.00
J. M. Gordon	*	5.00
Mrs. I. A. Anderson	§	5.00
"A Monthly Subscriber"	*	5.00

Friends in office of E. Extension Telegraph Co. and Censors:—J.S.J., W.A., M.F.M., C.P.T., F.S., C.V., A.R.R., C.T., F.L.M., O.P.M., E.M., Y.M.C., H.K.G., K.L.E., A.S.H., A.P.P., T.S.Q., D.R.C., L.R., P.C., H.P.U., J.W., T.K.C., L.Y.T., L.S.C., F.A.R., W.L.W., H.P.C., T.U.M., S.L., L.R., A.J.R., R.M.S., C.C.C., D.T.S., S.C.L., H.S.H., B.T.S., L.H.H., L.M.C., I.D.C., G.H.C., M.M.R., D.H.H., H.C.G., L.E.F., S.K.K., D.G.G., L.H.C., A.E.C., J.M.B., J.H. § 155.00

R. E. Belilios	*	5.00
A. and F. M.	*	20.00
A. Denison	*	5.00
Total		$665.00

* Monthly subscription.
§ Donation.

T. ROBINSON
(General Secretary).
F. G. B. HASTINGS, R.N.
(Naval Secretary).
C. L. COOPER-HUNT, C.F.
(Military Secretary and Treasurer).

TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY COMPLETED.

The two ends of the Transcontinental were joined in October, and the first trial passenger train was run.

The Australian transcontinental railway connects Port Augusta in South Australia with Kalgoorlie in Western Australia, a total length of 1,051 miles. It was begun in September, 1912, and cost over £6,000,000. It is expected that when the ballasting of the line is completed the journey from Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta will be made in 24 hours. Until then it is proposed to run a through service in about 35 hours.

SPORT.

BILLIARDS.

SOLDIERS' CLUB TOURNAMENT.

This competition was continued on Monday night, two very even games being witnessed. Mr. E. W. Black, of the Dockyard D.C. team, made a break of 32, which so far is the highest break of the tournament, 31 by Mr. Parkes previously being the best. Scores:—

A.S.C.		DOCKYARD D.C.	
Sergt.-Major Sainsbury	246	R. W. Bearne	250
Sgt. Sherratt	266	H. W. Black	250

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

TO-DAY'S MATCH.

DIVISION II.

83rd. Co. R.G.A. *v.* 87th Co. R.G.A.—Navy Ground. Kick-off, 4 p.m. Referee, Mr. Atwill.

CRICKET.

ROYAL ARTILLERY *v.* ROYAL ENGINEERS.

This league match was played at Happy Valley, yesterday afternoon, and ended in a draw. Scoring was low, the extremely bad state of the ground probably being responsible for this. The fielding of the gunners was faulty, no fewer than three chances being missed in the early stages of the Engineers' innings. The Artillerymen would probably have won a victory if time had permitted. Scores:—

ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Bombr. Athorne, run out	35
Bombr. Dix, c Gordon, b Cripwell	2
Bombr. Drummond, b Reakes	0
Gunr. Sharman, c Lucas, b Cripwell	2
C. Q. M. S. Ross, c McGregor, b Reakes	4
Gunr. Bains, b Cripwell	1
Gunr. Perkins, l.b.w., b Adams	13
Gunr. Mann, st. Waller, b Reakes	2
Gunr. Boocock, b Adams	0
Bombr. Armatys, c Lucas, b Adams	2
Lieut. Baker, not out	13
Extras	14
Total	89

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Cripwell	11	3	29	3
Reakes	16	3	37	3
Adams	6	2	9	3

ROYAL ENGINEERS.

Sergt. McGregor, c Dix, b Athorne	1
Spr. Gordon, c Armatys, b Athorne	12
Corpl. Adams, b Boocock	2
C. Q. M. S. Reakes, c Drummond, b Boocock	8
Spr. Waller, c Perkins, b Athorne	20
L/Cpl. Lucas, b Boocock	0
S. Sgt. Cripwell, c Mann, b Athorne	10
Spr. Millard, not out	0
Spr. Pascall, b Boocock	6
Corpl. Heath, not out	0
Extras	6
Total	65

Spr. Townsend did not bat.

Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Athorne	14	1	38	4
Boocock	14	2	23	4

GOLF.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The Captain's Cup competition for December was won by Mr. R. J. Birbeck, and the tie for the play-off is as follows:—

Bye—E. J. Grist and M. A. Murray.
R. J. Birbeck and A. B. Purvis.
J. Hooper or C. C. Stark and F. J. de Rome.
A. Ritchie and R. M. Henderson.
Eldon Potter and J. C. Fletcher.
Bye, W. D. Kraft and L. J. Blackburn.

The rounds must be played off as follows:—First, before Monday, January 14th; second, January 21st; semi-final, January 28th; and final, February 4th.

For the Christmas Holidays there will be an Eclectic Competition for men over the 18-hole course, and for ladies over the Relief Course from Saturday, December 22nd, until Wednesday, December 26th; a Bogey Pool Competition for men over the 18-hole course for the same period; and a Medal Competition for ladies over the Relief Course of 9 holes on Saturday and Sunday, December 22nd and 23rd.

In addition to the above there will be a mixed foursome competition over the Relief Course of 9 holes, commencing on Saturday, December 22nd, and finishing on Christmas Day. December 25th. On Boxing Day there will be a mixed foursome competition over the 18-course, medal play, to be played any time after noon. A silver cup has been kindly presented by Dr. Moore Graham, of the s.s. *Empress of Asia*, for the winning lady.

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

MR. P. H. HOLYOAK'S IMPRESSIONS OF HIS VISIT TO THE U.S.A.

Yesterday afternoon the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak gave his "Impressions of America's War Preparations" to a gathering of some two hundred representative members of the American and British communities at "Kingsclere" by invitation of Mr. G. E. Anderson, Consul-General for the United States. Amongst those present were H.E. the Officer Administering the Government (the Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G.) the Chief Justice (Sir William Rees Davis, K.C.), the Puisne Judge (Mr. H. H. Gompertz), the Bishop of Victoria (Dr. Lander), Commodore Sandeman, the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., and Lt.-Col. Ward, M.P. The band of the Middlesex Regiment was in attendance and discoursed pleasing selections of music while the guests partook of tea.

Mr. Anderson, in thanking the guests for their presence, said he thought it would be advisable to give them a few words in explanation of the occasion. Very few people—outside of the United States—and not everyone within—understood the war situation in America. One of the principles that Washington laid down was that America should not interfere in European affairs. The feeling that brought about the departure from this policy was noticed in 1915. In January the American people became restless, and in February they had the announcement of unrestricted submarinism. In May they passed a law to raise an army by conscription. When America went into the war it was without the support of the "West," but, later, the East dragged the West with it. The problem in the U.S.A. was not to make the people fight but to make them understand. Now that the nation had entered the war they would not quit until their objects were attained. There were two great facts which stood out in the world to-day above everything—even above the war. One was democracy and the other the new womanhood. In conclusion, Mr. Anderson mentioned that originally he had asked Mr. Holyoak to give his impressions at a small dinner, but the number of people who desired to be present made this impracticable, and a conversazione seemed the only solution.

The Hon. Mr. Holyoak said that he was glad Mr. Anderson had given that explanation, for otherwise he (Mr. Holyoak) would neither have had the presumption nor temerity to address so large an audience on this important subject. His impressions were merely those of a sojourner. It was obvious that President Wilson's early conception of this war and the relations of America to it had undergone a considerable change. Mr. Wilson's attitude in the early stages of the war had, he thought, been misjudged. Up to the time of the infamous sinking of the *Lusitania*, and for some time after, the U.S.A. was not in a position to declare war against Germany. No one was more aware of that fact than the President. He did not by that mean that Mr. Wilson's blood did not boil at the atrocities committed by the Germans, but he did say that President Wilson's Notes to Germany, whether written for the purpose of gaining time or not, were treated with contempt. Mr. Holyoak quoted President Wilson's address to Congress on the 5th instant on the question of the price of peace. In this address Mr. Wilson declared that "the intolerable thing of which Germany had shown them the ugly face—this menace of combined intrigue and force which they now saw so clearly as the German power—a thing conscienceless, honourless, incapable of a covenanted peace—must be crushed, and, if it be not utterly brought to an end, at least it must be shut out from friendly intercourse with nations." President Wilson sent Note after Note, each of which in its turn was freely criticised, but they were, apparently, but a means to an end. At any rate, in the Notes despatched after the sinking of the *Lusitania* there was an enormous change either in the situation or in his view of it. Personally, he (Mr. Holyoak) did not think that there was any change of thought. When the *Lusitania* was sunk the U.S.A. had a large number of citizens who owed allegiance to Germany and they constituted a menace which the Government was not in a position to guard against. Indeed, Mr. Gerrard reported that, during a discussion on submarine warfare, Herr Zimmerman said to him: "The United States does not dare to do anything against Germany because we have 500,000 German reservists in America who will rise in arms against your Government if your Government should dare to take any aciton against Germany." Mr. Gerrard replied "We have 500,001 lamp posts in America and that is where the German reservists would find themselves if they tried any uprising." (Applause.) It was to be doubted, however, whether at that time this threat could have been carried out. Thence onward America realised that she would be forced to come into the war for the sake of civilisation, and she began to set her house in order and organised a Secret Service, which was second to none in the world. Instead of having the holocaust which everybody expected, the Secret Service marked down man after man who gave evidence of pro-German sympathies. When at length war was declared many of these people—including men of wealth and influence—suddenly and mysteriously disappeared. The competent manner in which America handled this difficult problem furnished a lesson to civilization. (Applause.) So much was due to America, of which many nasty things had been said—and still more nasty things had been thought—in the early days of the war.

Mr. Holyoak proceeded to outline the impressions he formed during his visit to America. At Honolulu he found that German intrigue had succeeded in infecting a considerable portion of the cattle with anthrax. This was traced to a German chemist. When he reached San Francisco, three Germans were being prosecuted for inciting a revolution in India. They were the former Consul at Honolulu, his successor, and a German formerly connected with the German Consulate in San Francisco. A recent telegram stated that they had pleaded guilty, as by taking this course, they considered, they would best serve the interests of their country, by avoiding further exposures in the Court, adding "the less said about these cases, the better for Germany."

Mr. Holyoak went on to say that on arrival in America he felt that there was a distinctly anti-British feeling, though the people were strongly pro-Ally. This could be ascribed, he thought, to two causes. The first of these was to be found in the unfortunate War of Independence, which had separated the great Anglo-Saxon race. The history of this unfortunate struggle was apparently still taught and accentuated in the schools throughout America. He expressed a hope that after the present world-struggle all this would cease. (Applause.) Whatever may have been the differences which led to the War of Independence those differences had long since disappeared, and he hoped that the scholars in the schools would be taught in future that we were brothers in blood, traditions, ideals and religion. (Loud applause.) He trusted that as a sequel to the struggle for world independence the two nations would be permanently united to promote the peace of the world. (Applause.)

In the Western States he found that they did not fully realise that they were at war, until, in the first place, Bishop Brent preached a remarkable sermon in the Cathedral of San Francisco in which he described his experiences on the Western Front; and, in the second place, Secretary Lansing pointed out that the issues in this war really involved the existence of all civilised nations, including America. In New York there was a total change of atmosphere and on every side there were evidences of active war preparations. For example, in Wall Street during high noon business men could be seen engaged in studying the heliograph and Morse systems, while in Times Square there was a full-size model of a battleship on which naval routine was being carried through for recruiting purposes. In a short time the West joined hands with the East, and it was felt that the war was a God-sent idea. The preparations for taking a part in it were made with characteristic "hustle." Millions were freely voted for the manufacture of munitions, the building of ships, the construction of aircraft, and the provision of destroyers to form a lane across the Atlantic. Big increases were made in the *personnel* of the Navy, and as regards the Army, it was estimated that by the middle of next March there would be a million fully-trained American troops on the front in France. (Applause.)

In conclusion Mr. Holyoak referred with satisfaction to the fact that the policy of excluding the Germans from the Colony for a term after the war, which he submitted to the Hongkong Legislative Council in the early part of the year, had found expression in America, France, and Great Britain. President Wilson had said: "If the German people continue to be obliged to live under their present masters, after the war it might be impossible to admit them to a partnership of the nations, which must henceforth guarantee the world's peace, or to admit them to free economic intercourse, which must inevitably spring out from their partnerships." (Applause.)

In thanking Mr. Holyoak for his very interesting address, Mr. Anderson said he had been very generous and very charitable, for no doubt America had made mistakes and would have made many more but for the experience which the Allies had placed at her service.

HONGKONG MAGISTRACY.

THEFT OF TWO ZINC SLABS.

Two Chinese youths, who were employed in scraping the boiler of a vessel in harbour, were charged with the theft of two zinc slabs, valued at $16.

Inspector Kent said the defendants were arrested while bargaining with a marine hawker in Wing Lok Wharf.

Mr. Dyer Ball ordered each defendant to receive ten strokes with the birch.

A PICKPOCKET.

A Chinese youth pleaded guilty to picking another boy's pocket on Monday night.

Inspector Kent said the complainant was standing near the Sun Wing Company when defendant came up behind him, and, lifting complainant's pocket with his left hand, inserted his right hand into it and extracted some money. A District Watchman noticed this and had defendant arrested. Defendant stated at the Police Station that he had only been a week in Hongkong, and, being desperate with hunger, committed the offence.

Mr. Dyer Ball sentenced defendant to three months' hard labour.

THEFT OF MILK.

A Chinese was charged with stealing a bottle of milk, the property of the Dairy Farm.

It was stated that one of the coolies employed by the Dairy Farm Co. to deliver milk left a bottle of milk on the doorstep of a house in Bonham Road and walked away after ringing the bell. The occupant of the house answered the call and found that the bottle of milk had disappeared. He called out to the coolie, who stated that the bottle of milk had been left on the doorstep. As defendant happened to be the only person to pass that way, he was arrested and the bottle of milk was found in his pocket.

Mr. Dyer Ball sentenced defendant to a month's hard labour.

WEST INDIAN'S UNHAPPY PLIGHT.

A West Indian was charged with being a vagrant.

Inspector Sim said the defendant came to No. 2 Police Station on Sunday and stated that he had no money and had had nothing to eat, and asked whether anything could be done for him. Witness took him to the Sailors' Home, but defendant could not be taken in there as he was not a British subject. Defendant went away, but came back on Monday night and said he was in desperate circumstances; he was a seaman but had left his last ship because the master treated him very cruelly. He had also stated that he went to the Dutch Consul for assistance, which had been refused.

Defendant told the Court that he came from South America. He had only seventeen cents.

Mr. J. R. Wood discharged defendant, ordering the 17 cents to be returned to him.

A GERMAN STOWAWAY.

John Litzitis, a German, was charged with being found on board a steamer, bound from Seattle to Hongkong, without a ticket and without obtaining the permission of either the owners of the vessel or the master.

Defendant stated that he wanted to go to San Francisco, but boarded the wrong vessel. He supposed he was drunk at the time.

Mr. Dyer Ball—Did you intend to get a passage on that ship?—Witness—No; I wanted to take ship to San Francisco and went to the ship's agency. Unfortunately for me, the tickets were all sold out. I went to the harbour and, seeing a ship in the docks, got on board and went into a bunk, where I slept. I had money with me to purchase my ticket.

Did you get the consent of the owners of the ship?—No.

Mr. R. T. Martin, chief steward of the vessel, said that when the ship was two days out from Seattle his "boy," who had been sent to the store-room for some stores, came rushing up and informed him that there was something moving in a berth in the place known as the "glory-hole." On going below witness found the defendant in the berth. He was taken to the chief officer and reported as a stowaway. The defendant did not give any trouble. Witness had seen him some days previously in Seattle.

Mr. Dyer Ball—Do you know whether it is impossible to get tickets for San Francisco?—Witness—Well, the ship got filled as soon as she entered harbour and several passengers had to be turned out.

(*Continued at foot of next Column.*)

BANKRUPTCY COURT.

[BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR WILLIAM REES DAVIS, K.C.).]

APPLICATION FOR A RECEIVING ORDER.

Mr. Hind made an application on behalf of Chan Hang Chun for a receiving order against the firm of Chan Sui Sang.

Mr. W. B. Hind asked for the order under section 7 (a) Bankruptcy Ordinance No. 7 of 1891 and he further referred to Halsbury (page 58, vol. 2) in connection with the practice at home in respect of a similar case.

The Official Receiver, Mr. A. Nisbet, objected and said that on the face of the petition there was no possibility of substantial assets.

His Lordship adjourned the petition until the next Bankruptcy day.

RECEIVING ORDER GRANTED.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley applied on behalf of Chan Chi Kee, of 7, Des Vœux Road, for a receiving order against the firm of Tung Fat, which was indebted to the petitioner for $300 in respect of principal due to him under a promissory note dated June 25th, 1917.

In his petition the petitioner stated that on November 17th last he received a notice signed by Pun Wun Chun, a partner in the firm of Tung Fat, suspending payment.

The assets of the firm are estimated to be over $105,000, and consist of the following items:—About $6,200 due to the firm for goods sold and delivered; $1,000 cash in hand; $5,800 unsecured loans made by the firm to various persons; about $92,500 due to the firm on contracts for the sale to their customers of cotton yarn.

The liabilities of the firm exceed $130,000, of which over $93,000 is due to firms on contracts for the purchase of cotton yarn.

His Lordship made a receiving order.

CANTON AMERICAN RED CROSS.

A case was dispatched by the Canton American Red Cross to Colonel Gordon Hall, R.A.M.C., Cairo, per P. & O. Steamship Co., on November 23rd, containing the following articles:—12 dozen surgical swabs, 50 many-tail bandages, 100 khaki handkerchiefs, 12 eye-bandages, 6 chin bandages, 25 pillow-cases, 10 surgical caps, 50 milk-jug covers, 1 pair surgical stockings, 12 pairs socks, 50 tray-cloths, 18 shirts, 22 suits pyjamas, books and magazines, 1 coat, 1 waist-coat, 3 complete suits, collars, and 1,000 cigarettes.

HONGKONG TRAMWAY CO., LTD.

The approximate statement of traffic receipts for the week ending 8th December is as follows:—

	Receipts for week.	Aggregate receipts for 49 weeks
This Year	$12,051	$659,661
Last Year	12,227	698,664
Decrease	176	39,003

Can passage tickets be procured on board?—Yes, sir.

The magistrate, addressing defendant, said:—You had no permission to go on board and you did not possess a ticket. The ship was not going to San Francisco, and passengers are not allowed to go on board without tickets. What have you to say?

Defendant went into the witness-box. He said:—I went to Seattle the day before, intending to take a steamer to San Francisco. As there was no ship in, I went round the town. On going to the harbour on the 13th of November I saw a ship and, getting on board, went into a bunk and slept. I was unaware that the steamer was not bound for San Francisco; I did not make any enquiries. I did go to a shipping agency to purchase a ticket, but on the way another person informed me that no tickets could be purchased. I spoke to some of the labourers on board, also someone who appeared to be employed on the steamer.

Mr. Dyer Ball, in sentencing defendant to one month's hard labour, said that, according to the Ordinance passed in Hongkong, any person coming into the Colony, on board a ship, without paying for his passage or getting the consent of the owner or master of the vessel, could be charged as a stowaway. As far as the magistrate could see, defendant, according to his own admission, had been a stowaway. On the expiry of his sentence he would be deported to America.

INTIMATIONS

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

TELEPHONE 1741.

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PLAIN AXMINSTER CARPETS

WOVEN IN ONE PIECE WITHOUT SEAM.

WE HAVE THEM IN

GREEN
GREY
BROWN
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TONE ON TONE.

SIMPLE AND EFFECTIVE.

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FOOTWEAR.

[65

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

WISEMAN, LTD.

SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT OF STRING QUARTETTE
Assisted by CORNET SOLOIST
from
25TH MIDDLESEX REGIMENT,
TO-DAY from 4.15 to 6.15.
[1376

BANK HOLIDAY.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 5 of 1912, the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on SATURDAY, the 15th instant.
Hongkong, 11th December, 1917. [1373

G. R.

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS for SPECIE current in SHANGHAI, up to and for the sum of $300,000—current in Shanghai, will be received by the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, until 11.30 A.M. on the 13th December, 1917.

The amount accepted is to be placed by the tenderer to the credit of an account with the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Shanghai, so as to be available on the 14th December, 1917.

Persons tendering to state

The amount of Dollars current in Shanghai per £100 for Telegraphic Transfer on the Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury, London.

The tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, addressed to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, and endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, etc."

The right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders is reserved.

Copies of Forms of Tender can be had on application.

"Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that having regard to the provisions of the Acts 22 George III., Cap. 45 and 41, George III., Cap. 52, the acceptance of any such Tender is subject to the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills)."

"The provisions in question do not apply to Contracts entered into by any incorporated Company in its corporated capacity and made for the general benefit of the Company."

Any further information can be obtained by personal application to the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, A.P.D.

F. J. THURSBY-PELHAM, Lt.-Colonel,
Treasury Chest Officer, A.P.D.
His Majesty's Treasury Office,
Hongkong, 12th December, 1917. [1374

G. R.

GOVERNMENT BILLS, ETC.

TENDERS for SPECIE current in TIENTSIN, up to and for the sum of $100,000 current in Tientsin, will be received by the TREASURY CHEST OFFICER, ARMY PAY DEPARTMENT, until 11.30 A.M. on the 13th December, 1917.

The amount accepted is to be placed by the Tenderer to the credit of an account with the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Tientsin, so as to be available on the 14th December, 1917.

Persons tendering to state

The amount of Dollars current in Tientsin per £100 for Telegraphic Transfer on the Lords Commissioners of H.M. Treasury, London.

The Tenders to be in duplicate, and in sealed covers, endorsed "TENDERS FOR GOVERNMENT BILLS, etc."

The right to accept or reject any or all of the tenders is reserved.

Copies of Forms of Tender can be had on application.

"Persons tendering for (Bills) are hereby notified that, having regard to the provisions of the Acts 22 George III., Cap. 45 and 41, George III., Cap. 52, the acceptance of any such Tender is subject to the express condition that no Member of the British House of Commons shall be admitted to any share or part in or to any benefit to arise from the Contract thereby made for the allotment of such (Bills)."

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F. J. THURSBY-PELHAM, Lt.-Colonel,
Treasury Chest Officer, A.P.D.
His Majesty's Treasury Office,
Hongkong, 12th December, 1917. [1375

G. R.

NOTICE

ANY EUROPEAN, Non-Asiatic or Indian desiring to leave the Colony should apply in person at the CENTRAL POLICE STATION between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily.

Applicants will be required to produce Passports or identification papers.

All persons with certain exceptions who remain in the Colony for more than 7 days are required to Register themselves under the REGISTRATION OF PERSONS ORDINANCE 1916.

Forms of Registration giving the particulars required may be obtained at the G.P.O. and at all Police Stations.

The Penalty for non compliance is a fine not exceeding $50.

(68

HONGKONG GOVERNMENT 6% WAR LOAN 1916.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that SCRIP CERTIFICATES may now be exchanged for definitive Bonds. Scrip Certificates should be handed in at the Hongkong Office of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION and Bonds of the same denominations will be issued in exchange.

E. D. C. WOLFE,
Colonial Treasurer.
Hongkong, 10th December, 1917. [1370

INTIMATIONS

CANTON-KOWLOON RAILWAY

THE PUBLIC IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that on and from WEDNESDAY, December 12th, the departure of EXPRESS TRAINS from KOWLOON AND CANTON will be as follows:—

DOWN	A.M.	P.M.
Leave CANTON	7.25	3.20
UP		
Leave KOWLOON	8.05	2.50

The Mid-Day Express Trains on Saturdays and Sundays are cancelled.

For further particulars see Time-Tables.

By Order,
H. P. WINSLOW,
Manager,
British Section,
Kowloon-Canton Railway.

By Order,
WEN TEH CHANG,
Managing Director,
Chinese Section,
Canton-Kowloon Railway.

Kowloon, 8th December, 1917. [1368

NOTICE.

THE MOTOR UNION INSURANCE CO., LTD.
(FIRE AND MARINE).

HAVING been Appointed AGENTS to the above Company, we are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS and issue Policies at Current Rates.

UNION TRADING CO.,
Agents.
Queen's Buildings,
Hongkong, 12th November, 1917. [1371

CENTRAL BUREAU OF LIQUIDATION OF THE DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK IN CHINA.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that under instructions from the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China, the business in China of the DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK has been placed in Liquidation.

And all Parties of Chinese, Allied and Neutral nationalities having Claims against the said Bank in Canton are hereby required to notify the Canton Bureau of Liquidation of their Claims, within one month from this date.

AND NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN, that all Parties indebted to the said Bank must discharge their liabilities within one month from this date, after which period the Central Bureau of Liquidation will take such action as may be necessary.

LOCAL BUREAU OF LIQUIDATION OF THE DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK, CANTON.

Canton, 1st December, 1871.
[1338

4% FRENCH LOAN.
(Rente Perpetuelle 4%).

THE BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE begs to announce that, to ensure the arrival of applications in Paris before December 16th, they will telegraph a first list of subscriptions from here on the 17th instant.

Intending subscribers are therefore invited to apply without delay.

Issue Price: 68.60

All applications from Foreign Countries will be allotted in full. Further particulars on application to the

BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE,
5, Chater Road,
[1290

4% FRENCH GOVERNMENT LOAN 1917.

Price of Issue Frs. 68.60.

Bearing interest from the 16th Dec., 1917, payable quarterly.

Free of Taxes.

Not to be redeemed for 25 years.

Subscription List will be Closed on the 12th December, 1917.

Bills and Bonds of the "National Defence" bought before the 1st November, 1917, are accepted in payment.

Applications will be received by:

THE BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE,
when full particulars may be obtained.

L. BERINDOAGUE,
Manager.
Hongkong, 8th November, 1917. [1362

YOU ARE INVITED to come and inspect our Fine Assortment of
DOLLS, TOYS,
and
CHRISTMAS CARDS.
Prices from 10 Cents upwards.
GRACA & CO.,
No 4, Wyndham Street,
Hongkong.
788

HOUSES TO LET

TO LET.

From 1st January, 1918.

"GLENSHIEL," No. 141, THE PEAK, in first-class order, FIVE ROOMS.
Apply to—
LINSTEAD & DAVIS.
[1272

TO LET.

FURNISHED ROOMS with or without board.
Apply to—
X. Y. Z.,
Care of "Daily Press" Office.
[1364

TO LET—FURNISHED,

NO. 2, STEWART TERRACE, Peak.
Apply to—
H. E. POLLOCK,
Prince's Buildings.
[1247

TO LET.

OFFICES in York Buildings.
HOUSES on Shameen, Canton.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT AND AGENCY Co., LTD.
[28

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE entry, Four very desirable SHOPS, situated in Ice House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.
For rent and other particulars apply to—
THE MANAGER,
HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.,
46, Connaught Road Central.
[900

TO LET.

A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.
FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., LTD.,
Alexandra Buildings
[1273

TO LET.

NO. 26, BELILIOS TERRACE.
No. 12, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE, SHOP.
GODOWN D, 8, Duddell Street.
No. 57, WHITFIELD HOUSE and GODOWN, Shaukiwan Road.
From 1st November, 1917, TOP FLOOR of 7, Duddell Street, now used as Messrs. Kelly & Walsh's Printing Office.
ONE GODOWN in Duddell Street.

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

"GLENSHIEL," No. 140 and 141, THE PEAK.
Apply to—
LINSTEAD & DAVIS,
3rd Floor, Alexandra Bldgs.
[90

VEGETABLE AND FLOWER SEEDS.

FRESH CROP of 1917 having been just collected orders solicited for Autumn or early Spring sowing.

List will be mailed free on application.

THE YOKOHAMA NURSERY Co., LTD.,
P.O. Box 72,
YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.
[1103

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, BOMBAY, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS AND LONDON

THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED FOR BATAVIA, AMERICAN, CONTINENTAL, AND SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.

THE Homeward Mail Steamer, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this port as usual, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports. Passenger accommodation in the connecting vessel secured before departure from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuable Cargo for Italy, France and London (under arrangement) will be conveyed by this Steamer proceeding to Bombay and there transhipped to the outgoing Steamer for Marseilles and London.

Parcels will be received at the Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The contents and value of all packages are required.

For further particulars, sailing dates, apply to

E. V. D. PARR,
Superintendent.

INTIMATION

WINES AND SPIRITS

ASSORTED CASES FOR XMAS.

Case No. 1. $22.00

3 Bots. St. Estephe Claret.
2 „ Light Dry Sherry.
2 „ Port, Full Bodied.
2 „ Gin.
1 Bot. Superior Old Cognac.
1 „ Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality.
1 „ Dewar's Scotch Whisky.

Case No. 2. $28.00

1 Bot. St. Marceaux Champagne.
1 „ Burgundy "Beaune."
3 Bots. St. Estephe Claret.
1 Bot. Light Dry Sherry, Sandeman's.
1 „ Port, Superior Light Invalid.
1 „ Superior Old Liqueur Cognac.
1 „ Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality.
1 „ Dewar's Scotch Whisky.
1 „ Gin.
1 „ Orange Curacao.

Case No. 3. $32.00

1 Bot. St. Marceaux Champagne.
1 „ Old Brown Sherry "E.E." Quality.
2 Bots. Superior Old Port "D" Quality.
1 „ Very Finest OLD BROWN Brandy "E" Quality.
1 „ Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky "E" Quality.
1 „ Kilty Liqueur Whisky (guaranteed 20 years old).
3 Bots. St. Julien Claret.
1 Bot. Gin.
1 „ Orange Curacao.

SPECIAL CASES PUT UP TO ORDER.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.
TELEPHONE 616
[12

BIRTH.

WINSLOW.—At Parkside, Kowloon, on December 11th, the wife of H. P. WINSLOW, of a son.
[1373

HONGKONG OFFICE: 10A, DES VŒUX ROAD, C. LONDON OFFICE: 181, FLEET STREET, E.C.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, 12TH DECEMBER, 1917.

DIFFICULTIES OF CHINESE

A WELL-KNOWN epigram says that if the Chinese only knew the use of sulphuric acid and relative pronouns they might lead the world. Sinologues will probably object that the Chinese do use particles corresponding to relative pronouns; be that as it may, it is certain that China has to make up a vast amount of leeway both in industrial and educational development, and also that the slowness of educational progress is not altogether the fault of the Chinese themselves, either Government or people—the Chinese language will always clog the educational machine and retard progress. Japan, it may be recalled, felt the same difficulty, and in the first flush of her reform era it was even seriously suggested that English should be adopted as the national language. China, too, has passed through this phase; it may be remembered that, in the early days of the Republic, one of the Ministries in Peking published its regulations in English, but this experiment was necessarily doomed to failure, and since then, whenever attention has been given to the subject, the solution has been sought rather on the lines of simplifying the system of writing. For ourselves, we would rather urge that the first step towards any reform of this nature should be a simplification of composition. The great objection at present to any system of writing that could be easily acquired by the bulk of the population is that it would be impossible to adapt it to the archaic language in which officials and scholars delight. There are, we think, signs that this change is gradually taking place, and that the day may come when it will no longer be thought necessary for mandates, proclamations, and official documents to be couched in language bearing as much relation to that in ordinary use as that of Tacitus does to modern Italian, but until the change is completed there is not much hope for any modernization of Chinese writing.

The need for some such modification of written Chinese as will adapt it to the requirements of a modern civilization scarcely calls for emphasis. One of the best proofs of this is furnished by the clause contained in all—or practically all—China's international agreements, to the effect that, in the event of there being any difference of meaning between the Chinese and European texts, the latter is to be taken as the correct version. Those who hold that language is useful for concealing thoughts will naturally contend that the possibilities of ambiguity and uncertainty that are latent in written Chinese are an advantage that should not be lightly discarded, but there will be few who do not think that it is, on the whole, preferable to have a language that does not specialize in these qualities and is at the same time capable of absorbing all the new ideas and expressions that every year gives birth to, and of keeping pace with the advance of civilization and science. Apart from this, it will be generally recognized that the Chinese ideographs—fascinating as they may be to the pundit—are a real hindrance to educational progress. At present the acquisition of the rudimentary arts of reading and writing absorbs quite a disproportionate amount of the time of a Chinese schoolboy. Something has been done to effect an improvement here; in modern schools the child is now taught first the characters in commonest use, so that all that he learns is of immediate practical utility, which is a distinct advance on the old system under which he spent years in studying abstruse classics and burdening himself with hundreds of characters that he was never likely to use in everyday life. But even with this reform, a child still has to memorize hundreds of hieroglyphs before he can hope to read the simplest book.

There have been various methods proposed for effecting an improvement in this respect. Romanized Chinese has some vogue; the New Testament is published in this medium, and it is found that illiterate Chinese readily learn to read and write it, but it is open to two objections. It is doubtful whether the use of Roman script would ever commend itself to the bulk of the Chinese people, and even if it did, any romanized version can have only a local use. The varieties of dialect would mean that the same character might be romanized in a different way in almost every province, and the romanized Chinese written in Peking would be totally unintelligible in Canton. At present the written character preserves the unity of the language throughout the Republic; if that were lost, the differences of dialect would become accentuated and hardened, and would develop into differences of language. The fissiparous tendencies of China are sufficient as it is without adding to them in this way. The same objection applies to any attempt at a phonetic rendering; the final solution of the problem will have to be worked out by Chinese scholars, and it seems that it will be found in a system of signs which will stand for corresponding, but not necessarily identical, sounds in each province. Three or four years ago a Mr. T. P. LAM invented such a system of initials and finals by which he claimed, with tone-marks, to be able to write any character so that it could be read anywhere in China, while the addition to his alphabet of 35 radicals, to give an indication of the meaning of the word, went far to prevent the confusion that might otherwise arise between homophonous characters. Mr. LAM claimed that, with his alphabet of 90 signs, he could reproduce equally well the 420 sounds of Pekingese or the 730 of Cantonese, and that the system, which had the advantage of preserving the general form and principles of the ideographs, could be mastered in three days. It is not likely that the problem will be solved by one man alone, but he certainly indicated the lines on which a new and simpler Chinese writing might easily be evolved. The question is certainly one that demands the earnest attention of all interested in education in China, for until it is solved, progress will always be slow and a vast proportion of illiteracy will prevail.

The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending 24th November amounted to 37,981 tons and the sales to 34,183 tons.

On Monday night an explosion occurred in an electric "feed," opposite No. 2 Police Station, and fragments of the pillar were hurled across the road, but fortunately no one was injured. The houses in the vicinity were without light for some time.

The fortnightly meeting of the Union Church Guild will be held in the Lecture Hall, Kennedy Road, this evening at 9 o'clock. This will be a Literary evening, and a paper on "Tennyson" will be read by Mrs. Maconnachie. Musical and other illustrations from his works will be rendered by friends. The meeting will be open to the public.

THE CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM

HONGKONG'S CONGRATULATIONS.

The following telegram has been received by the Officer Administering the Government from the Secretary of State:

"According to official news of Dec. 10th, Jerusalem was surrendered to General Allenby on December 9th after successful operations by our army in Palestine against enemy positions, which encircled the Holy City. British officers, accompanied by British, French, Italian and Indian Mahomedan Guards are on their way to safeguard the city and holy places. I am confident that this great historical event will be hailed with satisfaction throughout the Empire.—LONG."

The following reply has been dispatched:—

"Your telegram of December 10th, reporting the surrender of Jerusalem, has been received with the greatest satisfaction by the whole community in this Colony. Through their representatives in the Executive and Legislative Councils they desire to convey to His Majesty's Government and to General Allenby and his army their warmest congratulations on this splendid and historical achievement in the successful campaign in Palestine."

CORRESPONDENCE.

A PLEA FOR THE POLICE RESERVES.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—Now that the cold weather has set in and our Police Reserves are doing night patrols, I think they ought to be provided with stout overcoats, similar to those issued to the Water Police and Defence Corps. The cloaks used by the Regular Police are not sufficient to protect the whole body. I am sure if representations are made to their popular Commandant he will give prompt response in affording proper comfort to his subordinates, who are doing gratuitous work on behalf of the Colony, and should, therefore, have every consideration shown them.

I hope my suggestion may take effect.—Yours, etc.,

A NIGHT WALKER.

THE HALIFAX CATASTROPHE

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

SIR,—Having read with abhorrence the accounts of the awful catastrophe at Halifax, would it not be possible for the people of Hongkong to show their practical sympathy with the unfortunate sufferers, by starting a subscription for their relief?

Other parts of the Empire have suffered more from the war than Hongkong has, and thus have their own special burdens to bear, so that it seems fitting that we in Hongkong should do something (however small) to relieve the lot of our unfortunate fellow-countrymen, who have suddenly lost everything they possess.

I am sure that if you could start a subscription list the response would be spontaneous and liberal.

I am willing to subscribe $100 if the fund can be got up. I enclose my card.—Yours, etc.,

BRITISHER.

A RICH MAN'S WILL.

"It was with horror and fear, and not simply with astonishment, that I read recently in the column of wills one item," says Dr. Forsyth, in the *London Quarterly*. "The head of one of the largest industries of its kind left about a quarter-of-a-million, and of that he bequeathed £1,500 for distribution among certain of his *employés*. No other public legacy was named. It was time we had war. No hell could be worse than the unavailing passion of such a soul to return and give it freely away."

THE WAR.

SURRENDER OF JERUSALEM.

SANCTITY OF HOLY CITY PRESERVED.

ROUMANIANS OBLIGED TO CONCLUDE ARMISTICE.

GREAT BRITAIN'S MAN-POWER.

RECRUITING PROPOSALS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

Franco-Belgian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

ENEMY RAIDS REPULSED.

LONDON, December 10th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We repulsed raids south-westward of La Bassee and eastward of Klein Zillebeke.

FRENCH FRONT.

VIOLENT ARTILLERY STRUGGLE.

PARIS, December 10th.

A *communiqué* states:—The Artillery struggle was occasionally violent on the right of the Meuse, in the region of Les Chambrettes and in Upper Alsace.

The Near East.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

JERUSALEM SURRENDERS.

LONDON, December 10th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that Jerusalem, after being surrounded, surrendered.

ACCOUNT OF THE OPERATIONS.

LATER

Mr. Bonar Law stated that General Allenby had reported that on the 8th inst. he attacked the enemy's positions south and west of Jerusalem. The Welsh and Home County troops, advancing from the direction of Bethlehem, drove back the enemy, and, passing Jerusalem on the east, established themselves on the Jerusalem-Jericho road. At the same time the London Infantry and dismounted Yeomanry attacked strong enemy positions west and north-west of Jericho and established themselves astride the Jerusalem-Schechem road. The Holy City, being thus isolated, was surrendered to General Allenby. (Loud cheers.)

SANCTITY OF HOLY CITY SECURED.

The capture of Jerusalem has been to some degree delayed, owing to the great care which has been taken to avoid damage to sacred places in and around the city. (Cheers.)

OFFICIAL ENTRY.

Continuing, Mr. Bonar Law stated that British political officers, together with a British Governor and accompanied by British, French, Italian and Mahommedan representatives, were on their way to safeguard the city and holy places. General Allenby proposed to enter the city officially to-morrow, accompanied by Commanders of the French and Italian contingents and the heads of the French Political Mission.

Aerial Activities.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GERMAN AERIAL STRENGTH

OUTPUT OF AEROPLANES INCREASING.

LONDON, December 10th.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters reports:—According to approximately exact figures I have just received, the German Army possesses 273 aeroplane squadrons, comprising 2,500 machines. The squadrons are divided into one hundred artillery "spotters," 80 scouts, 23 bombers, 40 chasers, and 30 battleplane squadrons for the protection of the bombers. The German output of aeroplanes is reported to be rapidly increasing.

Italian Front.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ITALIAN FRONT.

EMPEROR'S KARL'S ANXIETY.

LONDON, December 10th.

Reuter's Correspondent at Italian Headquarters, telegraphing on the evening of the 9th inst., states:—The Emperor Karl, who is again on the Trentino Front, is most anxious about the Italian resistance. The present pause is bad for the Austrians, who cannot keep a large army equipped on the Asiago Plateau during the winter. They must soon withdraw to winter quarters or desperately seek a decision.

SUCCESSFUL ITALIAN COUNTER-ATTACK.

LONDON, December 10th

An Italian official report states:—The enemy gained possession of trenches eastward of Caposile, with a small garrison, after a hand-to-hand struggle.

Our counter-attack retook the entire position, putting to flight numerous enemy supports.

Our batteries shelled enemy masses in the Col Della Berretta and Mount Tomba region.

The Navy destroyed a bridge between Vianello, and Sacca during intense traffic.

General.

EARLIER CABLES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AMERICA AND THE WAR.

WEEKLY WAR REVIEW.

WASHINGTON, December 10th.

The War Secretary's Weekly Review on the war anticipates a general German offensive on the Western Front. Therefore, America's military efforts must speed up. Germany has concentrated all her available guns, munitions and men in the West, where there is relatively a greater German force than at any time during the war. The enemy, also, is concentrating extremely heavily in the Asiago Plateau. The full energy of the Allies will be demanded to keep the Austro-Germans from the lateral valleys of Fremcella and Cadena, leading to the main Brenta Valley and the plains below.

THE HALIFAX DISASTER.

MANSION HOUSE FUND OPENED.

LONDON, December 10th.

The Lord Mayor has opened a Mansion House Fund for the sufferers through the disaster at Halifax.

Subscriptions will be immediately cabled to Canada.

His Majesty King George has contributed £1,000.

URGENT NEED FOR ASSISTANCE.

An official message from Canada says it is now estimated that there are 2,000 dead and 3,000 injured.

Twenty thousand are destitute.

The damage is £5,000,000. The need for assistance is great and urgent.

NATIONAL WAR BONDS.

TOTALS TO DATE.

LONDON, December 10th.

Applications for the National War Bonds received by the Bank of England to the 8th inst. amounted to £150,094,000. Applications received by the Post Office to the 1st inst. amount to £2,734,000. (The War Savings Certificates sold to the 1st inst. total £131,628,000.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

BRITISH AMBASSADOR APPEALS TO RUSSIAN DEMOCRACY.

LONDON, December 10th.

Reuter's Correspondent at Petrograd telegraphs:—Sir George Buchanan, British Ambassador, in receiving the representatives of the Russian Press, welcomed the opportunity to appeal to Russian democracy against those who wilfully misrepresented the policy of Great Britain. He assured them of the British sympathy for the Russian people, who were worn out with the heavy sacrifices of the war and the general disorganisation that was inevitable in consequence of a great political upheaval like a revolution. "We bear them no grudge, and there is not a word of truth in the reports that we are contemplating any coercive or punitive measures in the event of their making a separate peace. The fact that the Council of the People's Commissaries are opening negotiations with the enemy without previous consultation with the Allies is a breach of the agreement of September, 1914, of which we have a right to complain. We cannot for one moment admit the validity of their contention that a treaty concluded with an autocratic government can have no binding force of democracy, by which that government has been replaced, as such a principle, if once adopted, would undermine the stability of all international agreements. But while we repudiate this new doctrine, we do not desire to induce an unwilling ally to continue to contribute her share in the common effort by an appeal to our treaty rights."

THE PEACE BRITAIN DESIRES TO SECURE.

"There are still higher principles to which we might appeal—principles fully recognised by the Council of the People's Commissaries. They are those of a democratic peace, a peace which accords with the wishes of smaller and weaker nationalities, which repudiates the idea of extracting plunder from conquered enemies under the name of war indemnities, or of incorporating in great empires the territories of reluctant populations. Such, broadly speaking, is the peace my Government equally with the Russian democracy, desire to see secured to the world. The Council of the People's Commissaries are mistaken in thinking that they can secure this peace by asking for an immediate armistice to be followed by agreement. They are putting the cart before the horse. The Allies, on the contrary, desire to arrive first at a general agreement in harmony with their declared aims and then to secure an armistice. So far not one word has been said by any German statesman showing that the ideals of Russian democracy are shared by the German Emperor, or by his Government. It is with German autocracy, not with the German people, that the negotiations for an armistice are being conducted. Is it likely that Emperor William, when once he knows that the Russian Army has ceased to exist as a fighting force, will be disposed to subscribe to a democratic and durable peace such as the Russian people desire? The peace he contemplates is a German imperialistic peace. Though the Allies cannot send representatives to the armistice negotiations, they are ready, as soon as a stable government is constituted and recognised by the Russian people as a whole, to examine with that Government the aims of the war and possible conditions for a just and durable peace. Meanwhile, they are rendering Russia most effective assistance by upholding the bulk of the German armies on their respective fronts."

RUSSIAN PEOPLE AND GERMAN CONQUEST.

PETROGRAD, December 10th.

The Maximalist Government newspaper *Pravda*, in a significant article, indicates that the Russian people will never consent to German conquest in Courland, Lithuania and Poland.

REPUBLIC OF FINLAND.

CAN NO LONGER DEPEND ON RUSSIA.

HELSINGFORS, December 10th.

The President of the Senate has notified the Powers of the proclamation of the Finnish Republic. The President adds:—The Finns can no longer be dependant upon Russia, whose rule is leading to famine and chaos.

GERMANO-RUSSO-RUMANIAN ARMISTICE.

SIGNED.

LONDON, December 10th.

A wireless German official report states:—We signed an armistice with the Russian and Roumanian Armies between the Dniester and the mouth of the Danube.

CONFIRMED.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour confirmed the information that the Roumanian Army had been obliged by uncontrollable circumstances to conclude an armistice.

MISCONCEPTION OF LORD LANSDOWNE'S LETTER.

MAY PRODUCE A PROFOUND DELUSION.

LONDON, December 10th.

Lord Robert Cecil, interviewed by Reuter's Agency, when asked about certain points of apparent similarity between Lord Lansdowne's letter and President Wilson's message, said:—"I see it is being alleged, with a certain degree of plausibility, that there are many points in which Lord Lansdowne agrees with President Wilson's message. That may be, but in the case of President Wilson's message there reads through every line of it not only a determination to win, but the certainty of victory. President Wilson's message has the inspiration of leadership, which Lord Lansdowne's letter lacks. This led to what I believe to be a complete misconception of Lord Lansdowne's letter, which has been thought to indicate some weakening of the determination on the part of this country, and it is possible that it may produce an impression of a change in our attitude. I believe any such impression to be a profound delusion. I know it to be so as far as the British Government is concerned, and I believe that the people as a whole, including Lord Lansdowne himself, are more determined than ever to bring the war to a victorious conclusion.

GERMAN STATE IDOLATRY ABOVE RELIGION.

"The fundamental evil in Germany is the State idolatry—the State above religion and everything else. It has been well described by Mr. Otto Kahn, himself of German origin, as 'a demoniacal obsession of power-worship and world-dominion.' That is at the bottom of what we complain. Submarine and other outrages committed by the enemy during the war are all the outcome of a condition by which no laws of morality are binding if they are against the State. That is really the foundation of all the trouble with the Germans. So long as the governing classes are infected with this doctrine, there is no limit to the wickedness and cruelties that will in time utterly undermine their civilisation. This is what President Wilson has said over and over again."

MR. ASQUITH'S SPEECH.

LONDON, December 10th.

Unusual interest is aroused in Mr. Asquith's speech at Birmingham to-morrow, as the occasion affords an opportunity to define the attitude of himself and his followers on Lord Lansdowne's letter; also towards other important war issues which have recently emerged.

THE MAN-POWER QUESTION

CABINET CONSIDERING RECRUITING PROPOSALS.

LONDON, December 10th.

Man-power has again become the chief topic, and a big debate on the subject is expected in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

It is understood that the Cabinet has been considering Sir Eric Geddes' recruiting proposals since the return of Mr. Lloyd George.

Lobbyists are of opinion that the military age may be raised to 45 years, with the most stringent combing out of war industries and luxury trades.

It is pointed out that the release of the German armies on the Russian Front has raised a particularly difficult problem, which is not simplified by the necessity of helping Italy.

It is stated that Hindenburg flung no less than 300,000 men at the British salient at Cambrai, which was only saved from annihilation by fine Staff work and heroic exploits by the British, who were heavily outnumbered.

Telegrams from Holland are still speaking of troops pouring westwards.

The *Times* says that by the deplorable elimination of the Russians the military situation is turning to the temporary advantage of the enemy. During the next months we may have to face dangers more formidable than in 1914.

The *Daily Chronicle* declares that the situation on the Western Front makes it impossible to send any more Divisions to Italy.

REVOLUTION IN PORTUGAL.

COMPOSITION OF REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE.

LISBON, December 10th.

The Revolutionary Committee has been formed consisting of General Paes, Senhor Machado Santos, and Captain Felicindo Costa.

Senhor Rodrigues and Senhor Bettencourt will be Premier and interim President, respectively.

ORIGIN OF THE TROUBLE.

LONDON, December 10th.

News from Lisbon is so belated and disjointed that it is impossible to understand the sequence of events.

Food difficulties seem largely to have been the original cause of the trouble, by which certain politicians, discontented with the existing *régime*, profited to overthrow the Government with the assistance of a portion of the Army and Navy.

All trains were stopped, and the Ministers were quietly arrested by military officers.

The Premier, Senhor Alfonso Costa, was travelling to Lisbon from Paris, but upon learning of the revolution he went to Oporto, which is seemingly quiet.

The Revolutionaries talk of dissolving Parliament.

One fact predominates amidst the many obscurities, namely, that the change of Government involves no change in the policy towards the Allies.

ROUMANIAN PRISONERS' CRUEL TREATMENT.

UNDER FIRE ON WESTERN FRONT.

The latest information concerning the treatment of Roumanian prisoners of war, as well as interned civilians, shows (says *The Times'* Special Correspondent with the Roumanian Army) that the Germans have outdone their Bulgarian allies in cruelties. According to information from a most reliable source, the treatment of the Roumanian prisoners by the Germans is beyond words. At Holminden, hostages of high social position, such as a former Attorney-General of the Supreme Court of Bukarest, were compelled to do hard work of the most degrading kind. In reply to the protest of neutrals the commandant of the camp said hard work was an exercise most beneficial for the health.

Interned civilians and prisoners of war have been sent to the Western front to work within reach of the Allied artillery fire for 10 hours a day, being treated with the utmost brutality. When the men from exhaustion tried to take a rest they were hit with the butt-end of rifles or sticks. During the spring, teams of from 10 to 14 Roumanian prisoners of war were put to ploughs in place of oxen.

The prisoners generally find it nearly impossible to eat the dishes given to them, though the Roumanian peasant soldiers are used to very simple food. Fully 10,000 Roumanian prisoners have died mostly of starvation. According to some who were able to escape, the prisoners of no other nation have been treated so badly as the Roumanians.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

APPLICATION OF DIOCESAN BOYS' SCHOOL RECOMMENDED.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held yesterday. In the absence of the President, who was unable to attend on account of military duties, the chair was occupied by the Director of Public Works (Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, C.M.G.). There were also present:—Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Mr. C. G. Alabaster, Colonel Crisp, Mr. Chan Kai Ming, Mr. Ng Hon Tsze, the Medical Officer (Mrs. Gale) and the Secretary (Mr. C. M. W. Reynolds).

With regard to the correspondence relative to supplying water for flushing proposed trough closets at the Diocesan Boys' School,—

Mr. ALABASTER minuted that the water from the main should not be used.

Mr. BOWLEY minuted that the Diocesan Boys' School is a boarding-school, and is therefore on a different footing from all Government schools. The application should be granted.

Mr. CHAN KAI MING minuted This application should be refused unless the usual conditions are complied with.

Mr. NG HON TSZE minuted that he agreed with Mr. Alabaster.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that there was a diversity of opinion with regard to that matter. The boarding-school was in a separate category from most of the schools of the Colony. In his opinion the application should be recommended with the addition of a special clause, "that this is because the supply of water is needed." He moved that the Board recommend that permission be granted for a supply of water from the mains.

Mr. BOWLEY seconded. He said the school had been established for a long period of years, and was a school for English, Eurasian and Chinese children. It received great support from the Education Department, and was one of the best schools for teaching English in the Colony. He thought an exception should be made in its favour. The Water Authority supported the application and had stated that there was a plentiful water supply. It would be a great mistake on the part of the Board to impede the improvement of the sanitation of the school. The school hoped to move at an early date to better premises, and, therefore, it would be a waste of money to sink a well and erect a trough.

Mr. ALABASTER considered it highly desirable that all schools should be furnished with properly flushed conveniences. He, however, saw no reason for making an exception in the present case, more particularly as it was suggested that the school did not wish to make use of the concession for any great length of time. If the need were urgent, the cost of digging a well for one school should not be great. He must adhere to the principle he always adhered to, namely, that the public water should not be used for that purpose.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that, if the premises ceased to be occupied by the school, the permit should be withdrawn. This was agreed to.

EDUCATION AND THE WAR.

Speaking at Liverpool recently, Mr. H. A. L. Fisher (President of the Board of Education) said the worst result of the war would not be the load of death or the burden of taxation. It would be the loss of future generations. He conceived it to be part of the duty of this generation to provide some means of compensating for the great losses which our nation would endure. One of the means by which some slight compensation might be provided was by the creation of a system of education throughout the country which would increase the value of every human unit by giving every boy and girl the possible opportunity we could afford and they could absorb. It might be asked, why not wait till the end of the war? His answer was three fold. In the first place, there was complete unanimity amongst the educationalists as to the main lines on which education might advance. Secondly, if we were to have a great advance in popular education we must take steps at the earliest possible opportunity to form and train our teaching staff. The third argument in favour of immediate action was that these juveniles should be kept in training in order to ease the process of demobilisation when labour would be flowing into the market which it would be difficult to absorb. But the education that should be given, if it were to be effective, must be the education of the whole man, and not entirely a bookworm education. It must be spiritual, moral, intellectual, and physical. (Cheers.) It was calculated that the ultimate cost of the proposals of the Government with regard to continuation education would be about £8,000,000 a year. He was authorised to say on behalf of the Cabinet that it was the Government's view that if the development in higher education were to be proceeded with a reasonable limit of time they should be as liberally financed by the Treasury as was compatible with giving to local education authorities, who would be the administrators, an active motive for good and economical expenditure. The Government considered we had come to a time when a larger share of educational expense should be borne by the State, and a smaller proportion borne out of the rates. (Cheers.) The utmost liberty would be allowed to local educational authorities, consistent with the control which Parliament must necessarily secure for the wise and prudent expenditure of these sums which Parliament votes.

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THE WOMEN'S ARMY AUXILIARY CORPS.

Up to April of this year the employment of women with the Army had been solely confined to England. But at the beginning of the year an officer had been sent to France to report generally on questions of labour supply for the army and on economizing man-power, in order to secure the largest possible number of able-bodied men for the fighting line. As a result, amongst others, recommendation of the employment of women was strongly urged. In prefacing his general remarks on this suggestion he paid the following striking tribute to the success of the experiment at home:—

"In the last year or more in England the employment of women has developed to an immense extent and has been attended with remarkable success. Women have taken up various forms of male employment, which by many had been deemed impossible for the sex. They have found their way into work in all branches of life and have proved their capacity for it.

"In the Army at Home the success has been conspicuous, and women are to be found in numerous offices and cooking in many of the Home Military Establishments. Results have shown that the sex difficulty has not been anything like what some have predicted. The women have been hard at work and felt they were out for the job and the men have respected them, and experience at Home has been, I understand, almost unanimous in this respect."

The functions which in his opinion could be usefully performed by women in France were as follows:—Ambulance and motor-car drivers, clerks in various offices, storewomen, checkers, telegraphists, telephone operators, postal employees, orderlies, cooks and domestic servants. Women employed abroad would (naturally) be confined to bases and places of safety on Lines of Communication far from the firing line.

The main difficulty that arose lay in the question of accommodation for the women. It was essential that no women should be employed until suitable accommodation could be made available. Accommodation in France had been prepared solely in accordance with the requirements of the troops, and modifications and adaptions for the use of women required careful consideration.

Several Conferences were held, and eventually it was decided in principle that women should be employed in substitution for soldiers in certain occupations at the Bases and on the Lines of Communication in France.

Any Army Council Instruction was issued accordingly authorising the employment of women of the W.A.A.C. for these purposes.

Meanwhile it was felt that a comprehensive scheme for the employment of women in certain occupations in the Army, both at Home and in France, was becoming a matter of urgent necessity.

The problem of co-ordinating and extending the various existing Organisations was not an easy one, and needed close examination. Every aspect of the problem was carefully considered, and the full charter for the organisation of the W.A.A.C. was finally completed at the end of June.

The release of men for other purposes is treated as the whole object of women's employment; they are to be substituted, roughly speaking, in the ratio of four women to three men. The main categories of employment are laid down as clerks and typists, cooks and domestic servants, motor drivers, store keepers, tailors, bakers, shoemakers, and messengers, telephonists and postal servants, and technical women for the R.F.C. and A.S.C. and miscellaneous, a category which includes printers, gardeners (for graves) and grooms: these various employments are fitted into four sections, Cookery, Mechanical, Clerical and Miscellaneous. The rates of pay for the various categories are laid down: cooks and those engaged in domestic service receive £26 (scrubbers £20) per annum and are entitled to free board and lodging; the other categories are engaged at weekly wages varying from 20/- a week for unskilled labour to 40/- for the most highly skilled; the women in these categories have a deduction of 14/- a week for board and lodging if they live in Government hostels; higher rates of pay are, of course, given to forewomen and the higher grades of the Corps. Under the terms of the agreement to be signed by each member on joining the Corps she is bound to serve, if required, for a year or the duration of the war, whichever is the greater period, and to declare whether she is willing to serve at home only or at home or abroad, and she engages to submit to proper discipline. Annual grants are made for uniforms for all members of the Corps proceeding overseas and for those at home working in camps or barracks.

The Uniform allowance provides the women with a serviceable outfit, consisting of a great coat of Army pattern, a khaki-coloured coat frock, stockings, shoes, leggings, and brown felt hat.

The higher grades wear a khaki coat and skirt.

Shoulder straps, inset with colour, denote the various sections—blue for those on the Headquarters, orange for the Administrators.

Members of the Domestic Section have scarlet shoulder straps; clerical—brown; mechanical—claret; miscellaneous—purple.

The Badge of the Corps is a laurel wreath, surrounding the initials W.A.A.C. This badge is worn by all women in the Corps. Members of the Women's Legion (Motor and Cookery), who enrol in the W.A.A.C. are permitted to wear in addition, the badge of the Women's Legion, on the lapel of the coat.

The approved badges to indicate the various grades of Controller, Administration, etc., consist of a rose and a fleur de lys, on the shoulder strap, varying in arrangement according to the grade of the Administrator; the Chief Controller having a *double rose*.

The Forewomen of the Corps are denoted by a laurel wreath on the upper arm.

In cases of sickness, or injury, at home they are subject to the Insurance Act, abroad they are entitled to free medical treatment: in both cases full pay is continued for three months and subsequently at a reduced rate. For disciplinary purposes members of the W.A.A.C. during working hours are subject to the orders of the Officer Commanding the Unit to which they are attached for duty and at other times to Administrators of the Corps of their own sex. At the head of the Corps is a Chief Controller and under her a deputy controller and heads of each of the four sections: overseas there is another Chief Controller also with a deputy. Area controller supervise the arrangements for the Corps in districts at home and abroad; and each hostel, according to its size, has an administrator or assistant administrator, who is responsible for the arrangements and the discipline and welfare of the women in her hostel.

Overseas all women are housed in Government hostels which take the form either of hired buildings or hutments: at home except in the case of the Cookery section they may lodge at their home if these are in proximity to their work; otherwise accommodation is found for them in hostels. Members of the cookery and motor transport sections of the Women's Legion already working for the Army will be gradually absorbed into the W.A.A.C. but may retain any advantages given to them by their previous rates of pay.

This Army Council Instruction for the first time brought the women working for the army both at home and abroad into one Corps. Those at home will for all practical purposes be doing the same work which some of them have been already doing for over a year; and though some changes of organisation, method of recruiting and hostel accommodation will result from the new arrangements, there will be no great change from the system already described under the heading *The Women's Legion*.

The overseas experiment is the chief innovation: there too it has already been working in practice for more than three months, so that it is already possible to say something of its success.

When it was decided to employ women in France, one of the first essentials was to find suitable accommodation for them. This was not always easy. Naturally their hostels and camps had to be self-contained, within reasonably easy distance from the places of employment, and a somewhat higher standard of comfort was required then for the men. However the military authorities co-operated with the ladies sent to secure quarters for the Corps, and preliminary arrangements were so rapidly carried out that it was possible to send out the first party of women at the end of April. At present the quarters are found principally in hutted camps, and also in hostels taken over by the Corps at some of the bases. These quarters can accommodate numbers from 28 to 500, and already accommodation has has been arranged for over 4,000 women to be employed by the army in France.

Each hostel or hutted camp, however small, is under the charge of an administrator responsible for the comfort and well-being of the inmates and for their discipline outside office hours. These administrators, varrying in grade from administrators and deputy administrators to unit administrators according to the size of the hostel, are all carefully chosen for their training and experience. Those chosen for these important posts comprise House mistresses and housekeepers in schools and large institutions, and women trained in welfare work, and superintendents of Hostels organized by the Ministry of Munitions. University women, and those who have gained experience in Canteens and girl's Clubs; and the qualities chiefly sought in them is that they should have been used to dealing with girls, have helped to organize games and women's work and above all that they should have tact and strength of character. In order to fit them better for their special work all the administrators as well as the higher grades of area administrators and controllers receive instruction before being sent out to take up their duties. The course includes lectures on organisation and administration, accounts and rations, insurance, travelling, hostel equipment, official returns, reports and correspondence and hygiene; and they are required to visit Army Record Offices and W.A.A.C. hostels already established in England.

A great deal of the success of the experiment must depend on the tact and personal influence of these administrators. For the women of the W.A.A.C. cannot be treated as children; they are carefully chosen in the first instance and are doing responsible work. For this reason a great deal of liberty is wisely given to them and the rules and regulations are not unnecessarily stringent. The members of the Corps must wear their uniform on all occasions; there are certain restrictions regarding admission to cafes, and estaminets in France, but the Administrator may sanction invitations to men to the public recreation rooms of the hostel. There are occasional roll-calls at the hostels, but out of office hours the women are allowed a great deal of liberty. Thus it will be seen, the idea is that they should be led, not driven, and that much depends on the administrator who acts as leader, still more on the manner in which the individual members respond to the trust reposed in them to keep up their personal credit and the honour of the Corps. It says well for the success of the system that after an experiment of nearly three months in France only three sick girls have been returned to England and they for an act which showed more stupidity than deliberate indiscipline.

The method of recruiting for the W.A.A.C. in France is as follows. General Headquarters periodically inform the War Office of the numbers of women required to replace men in stated occupations. The Director General of National Service is thereupon requested to obtain the women. His department instructs the local committees working under him to invite applications by advertisement, personal application or by making known the needs of the army at recruiting meetings for the Corps. References, of which applicants must give at least two, are examined and when a certain number of suitable candidates are reported to be available in any area, a selection board and a medical board composed of medical men is arranged by the War Office to make a selection from them. Candidates elected by the board and found medically fit are called up to a receiving depot after a short time allowed them for making preparations and giving notice to former employers. This time varies according to the accommodation available at receiving hostels, and in the past there has been some dissatisfaction at delays in calling up approved candidates; now, however, that the number of such hostels has been increased such delays are not likely to recur.

Candidates on arriving at the hostel are first solemnly enrolled in the Corps and sign their agreement before a military officer. They stay at the hostel about three weeks, during which they are inoculated and vaccinated, fitted with uniform and taught some elementary marching drill; they are also given a few addresses by senior officials of the corps on their duties and privileges. These three weeks are very valuable, as the women have a chance of making friends with their future associates in work and leisure, they learn to feel a pride in the Corps and to understand something of the importance of their duties. From the outset the fine spirit in which those volunteering for service envisaged their work was manifest. One example of this will suffice. When the first batch of recruits came to take possession of the Connaught Club hostel they were told that the beds had not yet arrived, as a sudden demand had arisen from the hospitals, and that they would have to sleep on straw-filled mattresses stretched over planks. Not a murmur was heard, although vaccination and inoculation soon gave aches and pains to several of them; on the contrary they rejoiced in the temporary discomfort, since they felt that they were thereby helping the men in hospital and were thus already doing something for the Army they had come to assist.* One notable feature of these hostels is that all women of the Corps below the grade corresponding to Army officers are treated in exactly the same way. There is thus no feeling of class distinction and the cook earning £26 a year is for the social purposes of the corps on an equality with the shorthand typist who earns 37/6 (39/6 in London) a week. This principle applies equally in France. Naturally every endeavour is made to allow friends to be together as much as possible; but throughout the spirit of equality of service according to capacity is maintained in the Corps.

Periodically parties of from thirty to sixty are made up from those, who have completed three weeks' attendance at the depot hostel, to proceed to France. Parties must always of course be arranged in accordance with the available supply of accommodation and the nature of the work required, and one of the difficulties is that with every contingent of clerks, typists, storewomen, etc., there must be a certain proportion of women to do the service in the hostel, to which they are drafted. Hardly a word of dissatisfaction and many expressions of praise have been sent over from France as to the work done by the women of the Corps, who have already joined the British Expeditionary Force. Even more convincing as to the success of the experiment are the letters relating their own experiences, which have been received from the women themselves. It is worth while giving copious extracts from these letters, since nothing could be more reassuring to the friends of those who have gone overseas or to all who have devoted themselves to the success of this great venture.

Here is a note from one of the first contingents to go out:—

"Needless to say, not one of us 18 girls would do anything knowingly to bring down the good name of the D. of F. W.A.A.C. unit, and we are certainly very proud of being the first unit to come out."

Here are the thoughts of a storewoman:—

"We had Mrs. . . . to speak to us last evening and she gave us a lecture on upholding the honour of the corps, but I really think we are upholding that honour. . . . and myself have started in the stores at a remount camp about half an hour's walk from the hostel. It is mostly dealing with harness and men's clothing. When the men go up to the trenches, we at them up with kit, and the horses with harness. To-day a whole lot of harness was returned to stores and . . . and byself had to check it, with the Major, who is an elderly man, watching us.

"We have a barrier to keep the men who come for clothes out of the store, and the second morning I was giving out boots a serjeant came round the barrier, so I promptly informed him, the other side for enquiries. He looked very surprised, but went. I expected he thought it is only a girl there, it does not matter, but he found his mistake out.

"This life is worth a great many inoculations, and that is saying something."

Among the most delightful incidents recorded is the welcome given to the women by the men they were sent out to supersede. One girl writes:—

"What we all appreciate so much is the cheerful welcome the "Boys" have given us. They are frankly glad to have us, and we were afraid we would be unpopular on account of turning them out of their jobs, but there is no such feeling."

Another can hardly contain her enthusiasm at the reception she and her friends met:—

"At the Hotel de Commerce, W.A.A.C. Hostel we had an excellent supper, with fresh white bread, and were furthermore almost pressed to have a second helping of the most delectable stew which was served to us. As far as we were able to ascertain, nobody at the Hotel de Commerce or anywhere else in Boulogne has ever entertained the faintest interest in baths or even having a wash. All such luxuries have had to be instituted by our authorities. Electric light has also been fitted up. No doubt you will have an accurate description of the chandelier in the dining room.

To-day we reached our destination. . . .

"When we finaly got here, we were indeed amazed. The men have provided every luxury you can conceive. They had put flowers in our mess and recreation room. We have heaps of comfy chairs also. We sit six at each table. We have white table cloths and crockery with a sweet blue pattern on it. Our recreation hut is a veritable lounge. It has a clock and little table and long lie-down arm chairs. The floors are covered with linoleum. The officers who came to inspect them said, 'Oh, some pictures would look nice, and wouldn't you like some curtains?' When we waxed gratefully enthusiastic they said modestly, 'Well, they do look all right. Quite dry, I should think.' The Tommies who actually got them ready said, 'Well, we shouldn't like to see our sisters roughing it.'

"We are the only girls for five miles round and the men tell us that all the talent is to turn out and give us a welcoming party during the week. We are to start work to-morrow. We feel that we shall have to expend the last spasm of energy for the rest of our lives if necessary to make up to the men for their kindness to us. In fact we feel almost swindled inasmuch as we were definitely promised hardships, but so far have been able to discover absolutely none."

Another girl writes:—

"We are billeted in empty villages and everything is done for our comfort. Army blankets and no sheets are just a wee bit peculiar at first, but all idea of the latter is vanished from our minds and we are developing an affection for our nice warm covering.

The restrictions are not at all formidable. In fact we are allowed more liberty than I personally expected, which is saying a great deal. . . .

"Army rations may be a little rougher than the food one has been used to, but the quality is good and the quantity and hunger is the best of sauces. . . .

"The work is interesting and we really feel as if our 'little bit' will really count this time."

"The work, indeed, proves to be very interesting and all seem keen to make the best of work and play. Here is a girl's account of her daily routine.

"We are all keen on our work and the hours are quite short. We have breakfast at 7.30 a.m. (a few of the Stores Clerks have it a little earlier) and parade at 8.15 a.m. We march down to the offices and commence work about 9 a.m. We leave again at 1.45. We finish at 5 p.m. for the day. I was glad to hear that we were the nearest Camp to the line. The work at this base therefore is the most important, and I have found it very interesting indeed. Everyone else seems equally pleased about it.

"I think the girls will be glad to hear that we are free to go out from teatime till 9 o'clock roll call. This makes a delightful long evening for us."

But the free time is well employed, as the same girl writes:—

"Two of us went out on Sunday and tried our French which to our grant surprise was understood by the Frenchwomen. We are now studying hard at it, and are also getting up a shorthand speed class. The Army is developing us already."

Finally here is a quotation from the letter of a girl who typifies the fine spirit of work and adventures in which these brave women have undertaken their task: "We've dropped in most lucky, for it is an ideal little village right on the coast, and right in the midst of beautiful scenery and the most glorious stretch of sea, and with such advantages as these we feel that we are absolutely in clover, because we had expected a lot of hardships, and instead we have only inconvenience.

"With regard to our life in billets, being "army," of course, it is very crude, and we have dispensed with such luxuries as tablecloths, etc., but we have delicious white bread and white sugar. Wet get a lot of bully beef, and so far I haven't risked my teeth on the army biscuits because I've only six good ones, which I am anxious to preserve until after the war. As we get night duty, being telegraphists, we are billeted in a small house apart from the rest, because of getting sleep in the day time—a concession that we much appreciate. We have a bathing praade at 6.30 every morning, and get on "swimmingly." It sounds like a summer holiday, doesn't it? but, of course, it is not all pleasure out here, and my advice to the girls at Connaught Club is "Don't come out here expecting a picnic, because you won't get it." Those of us who are content with our lot come out with the sole motive of "doing our bit" and with the determination to make the best of our lot. Whenever we feel inclined to grumble at certain things, we think of the men in the trenches, and we feel that these sink into insignificance by the side of the sacrifices they are making—we must always keep that thought before us. Stick it girls, right to the end, and with the same noble spirit as they are showing, the honour of those who have taken a more active part in bringing the victory."

* This was only a temporary measure. The beds have now arrived.

SWEDEN AND GERMANY.

PROTESTS IN STOCKHOLM.

Eight to ten thousand people took part recently in a demonstration at Stockholm against secret diplomacy, and in favour of peace. The following resolution was passed:—

"That the events of the past few days show that among leading circles in Germany the careless confidence of the two Conservative Governments which have directed the policy of Sweden during the period of the war has been ruthlessly misused on certain points which have now been revealed. This meeting, therefore, emphasises the determination to maintain a correct neutral attitude which is felt by all the Swedish people. We realise with indignation and humiliation that our good name has been jeopardised by the conduct of a few men. Obviously the nation's fortune cannot continue in the hands of these few men, who favour such old systems and methods. In our foreign without resort to the methods of secret diplomacy, which are so largely responsible for the present misfortunes of the world. At home we demand the democratisation of the country, and an end of Conservation rule and administration. We demand that the people's fortune should be placed in their own hands. That would be the solution of our troubles."

At a great Liberal meeting held in the Auditorium the following resolution, proposed by Professor Eden, was passed unanimously:—

"That this meeting expresses the deepest regret that the Swedish Foreign Office is not in a position to deny the assertion that it forwarded cypher telegrams in ignorance of their contents—contents which, when revealed, awoke righteous abhorrence among all Swedes. We deplore that such careless acts should have been allowed to happen. This meeting demands that the Government shall immediately undertake all necessary measures to demonstrate indubitably the Swedish people's determination to maintain towards all sides absolute neutrality."

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OUR LONDON LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PROPOSED TRADE BOYCOTT OF GERMANY.

THE DEMANDS OF LABOUR IN WAR TIME.

LONDON, October 15th.

For some time the proposal of an Allied boycott of German trade and shipping has been under discussion. Broadly, the suggested plan is to declare a boycott for a term of years after the war, the punishment to be lengthened by a year or years for every month that the Germans henceforth continue in arms. By this means, it is argued, Germany would be hit where she is most vulnerable. Up to the present the advocates of the scheme have met with no opposition; their arguments remain unanswered, although that does not necessarily mean that they are irrefutable. For one thing they have not worked out their plan in detail, nor is it at all certain that there would be complete agreement among all the Allies if and when the matter was closely examined. It is interesting to note, however, that the mere mention of a boycott has thrown German trade circles into a state very much resembling panic, judging by what has lately appeared in the Press of that country.

Without going too closely into the question it may be remarked that the idea of a boycott received some encouragement by the speech of M. Briand, an ex-Prime Minister of France, in the French Chamber a day or two ago. "Germany is cut off from the rest of the world," he said, "and a nation that is severed from other nations is doomed to destruction. If the Germans go on with this terrible war it will be impossible for them to live; they will perish. The Allies' economic superiority is shown to be overwhelming." If the Allies were to continue to exercise their economic superiority after the war it would undoubtedly mean the utter doom of the Huns, who are well aware of the fact. The *Daily Mail* sarcastically suggests that our Foreign Office will object that a trade boycott of Germany is "too unladylike" to be entertained, and calls upon the Prime Minister and other members of the Government to put their heads together "and forge this sharp and deadly weapon without delay."

THE DEMANDS OF LABOUR.

In a recent letter I referred to the big wages of munition works, boys in their teens receiving for semi-skilled mechanical labour as much as many professional men are able to earn. But unlike other classes they have a strong objection to pay income-tax. Now, we have the Welsh miners threatening to "down tools" if the authorities insist upon collecting the amount of tax, as calculated from a minimum income of £130 per annum fixed by the last Budget. They say they ought not to be assessed at a sum below the previous minimum of £160. Their attitude is selfish, and in all the circumstances unjustifiable; but it illustrates what may be seen in many other directions where manual workers are concerned—a disposition to rebel against constituted authority and decisions which do not happen to please.

The truth is that, as things are, Labour has the whip-hand and is able to lay down the law. Strikes on anything like a large scale would be fatal to our cause and the future of the world. Therefore concessions are made which would not be granted at any other time. Thus the Welsh miners have obtained a concession from the Chancellor of the Exchequer in the shape of an abatement of £25 on incomes in the case of married men. As the abatement is to apply not only to weekly wage-earners but to all persons with incomes under £700 a year, it is essentially a general reform of the income tax, and as such ought to have been put forward when the next Budget is introduced. By announcing the change now in response to the demands of the miners the Cabinet are showing that they can be "squeezed" by any organised body of manual workers. The dangers of this policy are so obvious that they need not be pointed out. *L'appetit vient en mangeant.* Every concession leads to fresh demands. It is a policy that will lead to Labour difficulties after the war, when demands will still be made, but there will not be the compelling reason of war necessity on the part of the Powers that be to yield.

THE IRISH AFFAIRS.

Very little appears in the public Press about the state of affairs in Ireland, but from private sources I hear gloomy accounts of the country. Sedition is openly preached, and speeches of the most inflammatory character are made almost every day against English rule by frothy spouters who love to play upon the passions and prejudices of the excitable peasantry, especially in the South and West. On the face of it there appears no good reason in the world why young Irishmen should be helping to defeat the Germans. But, instead of this, as conscription does not apply to Ireland, thousands who are prating of what they call "freedom" and who ought to be striking a blow for it in Flanders, where the freedom of the world is being fought for, are in the ranks of the Sinn Feiners.

The Sinn Fein movement has grown enormously of late. Its development is marked by a vicious hatred of the English, a blind unreasoning feeling which unfortunately has the countenance of the Catholic clergy to a certain extent. Military drilling goes on daily, and leaders of the Sinn Fein, like Mr. de Valera, are to be found holding reviews of the "troops" in all sorts of places, these gatherings being invariably marked by great enthusiasm for the "cause," while they are at the same time made the

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

occasion of fanatical orations in favour of an Irish Republic with representatives at the Peace Conference!

LIKE A BAD JOKE.

Of course, the idea of some thousands of "rebels," as the Sinn Feiners describe themselves, pretending that they can obtain their professed ends by force of arms is simply amusing. It sounds very much like a bad joke. But the fact remains that these people take themselves seriously. They are out to give trouble, and they are drilling and marching among the bogs and mountains in order to equip themselves for action, "when the day comes," as they say. What to do with them is the problem. To suppress them by force would simply play into their hands and cause bloodshed. But if the movement is permitted to go on growing as it appears to be doing, there is the certainty of trouble sooner or later for that reason.

It seems probable that matters will be brought to a head as soon as the Convention gets through its labours. The immediate object of the Sinn Feiners is to upset the Convention and prevent it reaching a settlement as regards the form of government for Ireland that will be acceptable to a majority of Irishmen. For the present, therefore, the marching and counter-marching of the rebels are ignored; and if, as is hoped, a basis of agreement is reached the irreconcilables will be dealt with by their own countrymen. That would be the best way out of the dark and dismal wood of Irish discontent.—H. H.

GERMAN REALIZATION OF FACTS

REICHSTAG MEMBER'S FRANK SPEECH.

(FROM "THE TIMES" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT AT AMSTERDAM.)

The Reichstag Deputy Herr Gothein, addressing the Central Committee of the Radical Party on Saturday, said, according to the *Berliner Tageblatt*, that the military situation on all the fronts was favourable, though there was no hope of forcing the enemy to his knees on land, and the prolongation of the war demanded from Germany also enormous blood sacrifices.

Wide circles, said Herr Gothein, had certainly predicted that the submarine war would bring England to her knees by July at the latest. As soon as half of the 10 millions of tonnage available for England had been sunk they said she would be compelled to sue for peace. Seven million tons had now been sunk, but no considerable peace tendency was noticeable. Indeed, she had not yet come to rationing her provisions. Doubtless the submarine war in time would incline England to peace, but at what time one could not calculate. America could bring, moreover, so many troops and so much munitions over the Pacific and the Siberian Railway, where submarines could not go, and America could not be compelled to peace. Germany conducted the war with allies, and these were not inclined to continue it for German aims of conquest. They strove for a peace by agreement and reconciliation. But Germany required in particular Roumanian grain and mineral oil. The Pan-German cry for annexations was taken very badly by Germany's allies.

The overwhelming majority of the soldiers at the front were also not inclined to fight longer for any kind of aims of conquest, but only for Germany's vital security and for the peace aims of the Reichstag resolution. At home the prolonged hours of work and the insufficient nourishment, especially the latter, had increased in the great cities and in the industrial districts the longing for peace, as had also the increasing ruin of the middle class and the sorrow and care in countless families. Strikes were to be feared in working-class circles if the war continued for aims of conquest. Even for this reason an unambiguous repudiation of the annexationists was an indispensable necessity. Their agitation was even now a grave danger for domestic peace. One of the weightiest tasks now was to decide people at home to hold out; the opposite was attained with annexation plans. The food problem had assumed difficult proportions, even if it should be possible to come through. The harvest had suffered from the deficiency of manures, of draught animals, and of labour.

Herr Bothein went on to say that the coal supply had already caused extraordinary difficulties, necessitating far-reaching restrictions of business, while Germany had also been obliged to supply neutrals and her allies with coal. The maintenance of railway traffic was becoming ever more difficult, and further restriction of it would be necessary. The supply of raw materials for the Army and the conduct of the war was assured, even if very frequent recourse to substitutes was necessary. The supply for the civilian population, however, was not assured, especially of leather and textiles. The Army equipment industry was splendidly remunerative, but the industrial middle class had become impoverished. On one side were more millionaires, on the other side more of the proletariat. Disease and mortality had increased in consequence of malnutrition, and the birth-rate had diminished owing to the absence of the married men. This meant a lasting weakening of the national force. The longer the war lasted the harder it would be later to regain foreign markets and re-establish exchange. The monthly war expenses amounted to 3.4 milliards of marks [£170,000,000 at pre-war rates], and continued to increase. He advocated a peace by agreement and disarmament, followed by legal organizations and arbitration. His party would not renounce what belonged to Germany; the conquered territories must be retained as pawns for her.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

MR LLOYD GEORGE ON WAR BURDENS.

"CONCENTRATE ON VICTORY."

The Prime Minister received a deputation recently from the joint committee of Approved Societies and the Conference of the Amalgamated Society of Industrial Assurance, representing about 12 million insured persons. The objects of the deputation were:—

(1) The early establishment of a Ministry of Health on lines satisfactory to National Health Insurance organizations.

(2) The early passage into law of a Bill for the simplification of insurance administration.

(3) The financial readjustment of National Health Insurance especially as concerns women, by Exchequer grant, rather than from Sinking Fund.

The deputation was headed by Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., and the Prime Minister was accompanied by Lord Rhondda, Lord Milner, Sir Robert Morant (chairman of the Insurance Commission), Sir Edwin Cornwall, Mr. Hayes Fisher (President of the Local Government Board), Dr. Addison, and Major Astor.

Mr. J. H. Thomas asked the Prime Minister to be responsible for the immediate setting up of a Ministry of Health, and urged the necessity for the readjustment of the finances of National Health Insurance, laying emphasis on the need of doing more for women.

The Lord Mayor of Hull (president of the National Conference of Friendly Societies) said that those on whose behalf he spoke thought that the war was one of the factors which determined the opportuneness of a Ministry of Health.

Mr. Thomas Nell (London, chairman of the National Amalgamated Society of Industrial Assurance), Alderman Huddart (Salford, president of the Association of Insurance Committee), and Mr. Kingsley Wood (London) also addressed the Prime Minister.

Mr. Kingsley Wood said a Ministry of Health should not be concerned with Poor Law administration, and it should be representative of all interests.

In answer to the Prime Minister, Mr. Thomas said the Local Government Board was concerned with pauperism, and insured members and trade unionists hated it. "We are opposed to it, and will not have it at any price," he added, amid laughter.

PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY.

Mr. Lloyd George, in his reply, said the Exchequer was not in a position in the middle of a great war to make the same promises in regard to insurance or any other social projects which it could very well make in days of peace. Our energies and our thoughts had been taken away from projects for the amelioration of the condition of the people to the terrible demands made upon us in the defence of our liberties and freedom.

The drain on our resources was unparalleled, and we were not at the end of the charge on our national wealth. He wished he could predict that we might soon see the end of it, but the task which the nation had taken in hand must be accomplished. Otherwise not merely the power and prestige of this nation were broken, but its future was pretty hopeless.

We must husband our resources and incur no obligations beyond the strictest and sternest necessities of the hour, and when demands were put forward for improvements here and there his answer would be, "Concentrate upon victory." For the moment every claim on the Exchequer must be considered in the light of the terrible possibilities of the war, and when it was over, in a freer and happier atmosphere we could begin to rebuild, reconstruct, and regenerate.

The proposal of the Government in regard to the financial position of National Health Insurance created by the deficiency was that it should be met by a rearrangement of the Sinking Fund. A grant of £500,000 had already been made, and the Government proposed to make a grant of £250,000 a year in addition to the £150,000 promised by the Ryan Committee. They could not possibly at the present moment go beyond that. When the war was over all these things would have to be reconsidered, and he hoped they would be reconsidered in a very wide and broad spirit. (Hear, hear.)

PROPOSED MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

As to the Bill for a Ministry of Health, Mr. Lloyd George said he was the last person to contend that it was not an urgent measure. We had to repair the ravages of the war. Stricter attention to the health of the community, and to the saving of life by that means, was one of the most efficient and surest methods of attaining that end. The damage would be great, even if the war was arrested now, and the losses would be beyond count, and we should have to devote that resolution and that courage and that readiness to find an agreement which this war had disclosed rather than seek for a point of controversy—we should have to apply the whole of that new spirit to proposals of this kind. Otherwise we should never repair within our day, not within the day of our children, the ravages of this great war; but if we did concentrate in that spirit we should not merely clear the debris of war, we should not merely restore, but we should build something stronger, grander, and on a firmer foundation than we had ever witnessed.

He was very glad to have heard what they had to say, because he was certain that in one form or another we must drastically reform the administration of our health laws. There were conditions which were incompatible with health, and

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

THE FIRING LINE OF PUBLIC OPINION.

NEW U.S. PATRIOTIC LEAGUE'S PROGRAMME.

The new League of National Unity, the officers of which were received recently by Mr. Wilson at the White House, has been organized to "create a medium through which loyal Americans of all classes, sections, creeds, and parties can give expression to the fundamental purposes of the United States to achieve complete victory in this new war for the independence of America, the preservation of democratic institutions, and the vindication of the basic principles of humanity."

The following officers have been elected:—

Honorary Chairman, Cardinal Gibbons and the Rev. Frank Mason North (representing the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ of America); Chairman, Mr. Theodore N. Vail; vice-Chairmen, Mr. Samuel Gompers (President of the American Federation of Labour), Mr. Charles S. Barrett (President of the Farmers' Educational Union of America), and Mr. George Pope (President of the National Association of Manufacturers); treasurer, Mr. Otto Kahn; Chairman of the Executive Committee, Mr. James M. Beck.

The declaration of principles read to President Wilson says:—

The hour when our nation is fighting for the principles upon which it is founded, when free institutions and the hopes of humanity are at stake, we hold it the fit duty of every American to take his place in the firing line of public opinion. Those who are not now for America are against America. Our cause is just. We took up the sword only when international law and ancient rights were set at naught, when our forbearance was exhausted by persistent deception and broken pledges. Our aims are explicit, our purposes unsoiled by any selfishness. We defend the sanctities of life and the fundamental decencies of civilization. Agitation for premature peace is seditious when the object is to weaken the determination of America to see the war through to the conclusive vindication of the principles for which we have taken up arms. The war we are waging is a war against war, and its sacrifices must not be nullified by any truce or armistice that means no more than a breathing spell for the enemy.

We believe in the wise purpose of the President not to negotiate peace with an irresponsible autocratic dynasty. We approve the action of the National Government in dispatching an expeditionary force to the land of Roshambeau and Lafayette. Either we fight the enemy on foreign soil shoulder to shoulder with our comrades in arms, or we fight him on our own soil with our backs against our homes and alone. While this war lasts the cause of the Allies is our cause, their defeat is our defeat, and concerted action between them and us is essential for final victory. We therefore deprecate the exaggeration of old national prejudices, often stimulated German propaganda, and nothing more important than a clear understanding that those who in this crisis attack our Allies attack America.—*Times.*

BIRTH OF A NEW IRELAND.

SIR HORACE PLUNKETT'S HOPEFUL VIEW.

Members of the Irish Convention held their first public sitting at Cork recently. The delegates were afterwards entertained to luncheon by the members of the Cork Harbour Board.

In responding to the toast of "Success of the Convention," Sir Horace Plunkett said that, in spite of secrecy, a note of optimism seemed to prevail in the country. That was more than justified.

"I do not think," said Sir Horace, "any member of the Convention would object to my giving it as my opinion that it is highly improbable that not one of us has failed to modify some of his opinions. Reading between the lines of the official communication issued to-day, you will see we are getting on. We have passed one very important stage and are moving on to the next."

Using South Africa as a parallel, Sir Horace said it was trying to get people to embrace each other who had been at each other's throats.

"We are quite contented," he proceeded, "so long as we are left alone to do our work, so long as we are given credit for our good intentions. That is all we ask, and, if at the end, we show we are not competent to our task we should be condemned, and rightly condemned. Personally I have no such fear. At the risk of being charged with ignorant optimism, I confess that the Convention has made me hope—as I never hoped before—that I shall live to see that change of heart out of which alone a real new Ireland can be born. At the worst we shall have gradually narrowed the differences which keep Irishmen apart. At the best, over the field of our labours, Irishmen of the North and of the South will continue to meet, and in the larger patriotism say to one another, "My country is thy country," and in the larger charity "My God is thy God."

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WEATHER REPORT.

December 11th, at 11.55.—Pressure has increased considerably at Vladivostock, a depression having moved eastward over Hokkaido.

Pressure has decreased moderately along the coast from Shanghai to Hongkong, and considerably over Tongkin.

The anti-cyclone appears to have weakened and moved rapidly eastwards.

The monsoon will moderate over the China Sea. It is interrupted to the north of Amoy.

Hongkong rainfall for 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inch. Total since 1st January, 80.34 inches, against an average of 82.36 inches.

The forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon to-day is as follows:—

DISTRICT	FORECAST.
Hongkong to Gap Rock ...	E. winds, strong to moderate; some drizzling rain or mist.
Formosa Channel ...	N.E. winds, strong to moderate.
South Coast of China between Hongkong and Lamocks	The same as No. 1.
South Coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan...	The same as No. 1.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

11TH DECEMBER, A.M.

Station.	Hour.	Barometer at Sea Level	Temperature.	Humidity	Wind Direction.	Wind Force.	Weather
Vladivostock	6 a.	29 21	9	—	NNW	1	b
Nemuro	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hakodate	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tokio	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kochi	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagasaki	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kagoshima	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oanima	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Naha	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iahi'jma	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bonin Island	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Weihaiwei	6 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hankow	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ichang	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kiukiang	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Changsha	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shanghai	"	30.14	41	91	ENE	1	b
Gutzlaff	"	30 12	45	93	ESE	2	b
Sharp Peak	"	29 95	54	80	W	1	of
Amoy	"	30.03	54	74	WSW	2	b
Swatow	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Taihoku	5 a.	30 00	57	77	NE	4	o
Tachu	"	29.97	40	—	—	0	b
Tainan	"	29.97	54	—	NE	2	b
Koshun	"	29 93	72	—	NE	7	o
Pescadores	"	29 98	63	—	N	4	b
Canton	6 a.	29 29	63	80	NE	1	o
Hongkong	"	29.95	61	77	E	4	o
Gap Rock	"	29 92	—	—	ENE	6	o
Macao	"	29.92	59	81	NNE	2	of
Wuchow	9 a.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hoihow	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pakhoi	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Phulien	7 a.	29.86	57	86	NNE	6	o
Tourane	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cape St. James	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aparri	6 a.	29.81	72	91	NE	4	r
Dagupan	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manila	"	29 75	72	98	—	0	b
Legaspi	"	29.76	76	86	—	0	o
Tacloban	"	29.74	75	94	WSW	2	o
Iloilo	"	29.74	75	91	NE	2	of
Surigao	"	29.73	75	96	E	1	o
Guam	4.30	29 88	75	—	—	0	o
Labuan	6 a.	29 60	78	95	SW	8	o

T. E. CLAXTON, *Director.*

1. BAROMETER, reduced to 32 degrees Fahrenheit, on the level of the sea in inches, tenths and hundredths.
2. TEMPERATURE, in the shade, in degrees Fahrenheit.
3. HUMIDITY, in percentage of saturation, the humidity of air saturated with moisture being 100.
4. DIRECTION OF WIND, to two points.
5. FORCE OF WIND, according to Beaufort Scale.
6. STATE OF WEATHER, b blue sky, c detached cloud, d drizzling rain, f fog, g gloomy, h hail, l lightning, o overcast, p passing showers, q squal, r rain, s snow, t thunder, v visibility, w dew (wet).
7. RAIN in inches, tenths and hundreds

HONGKONG METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

Hongkong Observatory, December 11th.

	Previous Day at 2 p.m.	On Date at 6 a.m.	On Date at 2 p.m.
Barometer ...	29.99	29.95	29.90
Temperature ...	65	61	65
Humidity ...	81	77	63
Wind Direction ...	East	East	East
" Force ...	4	4	3
Weather ...	c	c	c
Rain ...	—	—	—

Highest open-air Temperature on 10th 67

Lowest open-air Temperature on 11th 60

HONGKONG TIDE TABLE.

From 12th to 18th December

	Days of Week	Days of Month	High Water H'kong Mean Time.	High Water Height	Low Water H'kong Mean Time.	Low Water Height
			h. m.	ft. in.	h. m.	ft. in.
Wed.	12	m	8 8	4 4	m 2 10	2 1
			7 16 a	7 5	0 53 a	3 3
Thurs.	13	m	8 58	4 2	m 2 10	1 4
			7 57 a	8 0	1 16 a	3 4
Fri.	14	m	9 48	4 8	m 9 19	0 2
			8 40 a	8 3	2 0 a	3 4
Satur.	15	m	10 35	4 3	m 4 9	0 6
			9 24 a	6 8	2 38 a	3 4
Sun.	16	m	11 22	4 3	m 4 50	0 4
			10 10 a	8 5	3 16 a	3 4
Mon.	17		0 13 a	4 3	m 5 31	0 4
			10 58 a	8 2	4 0 a	3 8
Tues.	18		1 4 a	4 5	m 6 20	0 7
			11 5 a	7 7	4 49 a	3 5

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SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR	STEAMER	TO SAIL
SHANGHAI	"SHANTUNG"	On 13th Dec. Noon.
SHANGHAI	"YINGCHOW"	On 15th Dec., 3 P.M.
SHANGHAI	"SUIYANG"	On 19th Dec., 3 P.M.

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TELEPHONE 36.

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	INABA MARU Capt. Higo 12,500	MONDAY, Dec., at Noon.	31st
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NAGASAKI KOBE and YOKOHAMA	NIKKO MARU Capt. Takeda, 9,000	FRIDAY, Dec., at 11 A.M.	14th
SHANGHAI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA.	MISHIMA MARU Capt. Nishimura 6,000	FRIDAY, Dec., at 11 A.M.	14th
	SUWA MARU Capt. Seline 21,000	SATURDAY, Dec., at 11 A.M.	15th
	ATSUTA MARU Capt. Inadru, 16,000	SUNDAY, Jan., at 11 A.M.	13th
KOBE and YOKOHAMA	KIRIN MARU Capt. Gasaki, 8,000	TUESDAY, Dec.	18th
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TENYO MARU	20,000	SAT.,	19th Jan.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	WED.,	23rd Jan.
SHINYO MARU	22,000	SAT.,	9th Feb.
PERSIA MARU	9,000	FRI.,	22nd Feb.

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"HAWAII MARU"	WEDNESDAY,	19th Dec., at 3 P.M.

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FORMOSAN LINE—For Tamsui, Keelung and Anping, Takao, via Swatow and Amoy.

"JOSHIN MARU"	THURSDAY,	13th Dec., at 8 A.M.
"AMAKUSA MARU"	SUNDAY,	16th Dec., at 10 A.M.
"SOSHU MARU"	THURSDAY,	20th Dec., at 8 A.M.

These Formosan Liners will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamers is alongside the wharf Telephone No. 76 will be fixed.

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LOCAL AND REGULAR MAILS OUTWARD.

For	On Week-Days	On Sundays & Holidays
Tai O	7.30 A.M.	—
Tai Po	10.00 A.M.	9.30 A.M.
Cheung Chow	7.30 A.M. / 2.30 P.M.	—
Shataukok, Shatin and Sheungshui	4.00 P.M.	—
Aberdeen, Autau Ping Shan, Sai Kung Santin, Stanley	4.30 P.M	—
Canton, Samshui and Wuchow	7.30 A.M. Night 5.00 P.M. Letters 6.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M
Macao	7.15 A.M. 1.30 P.M.	9.00 A.M.
Kongmoon	6.00 P.M. Except Saturdays	6.00 P.M
Namtau and Saumei	5.00 P.M.	5.00 P.M.
Shamchun	10.00 A.M. 4.00 P.M	9.00 A.M.

From Sheungwan Western Branch P.O.

For	On Week-Days	On Sundays	On Holi day
Macao	7.30 A.M. 1.30 P.M.	8.30 A.M.	7.30 A.M. 1.30 P.M.
Canton	7.30 A.M. 9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.	7.30 A.M. 9.30 P.M.
Tai Ping Tung	9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
Shek Ki	9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.	9.30 P.M.
Kongmoon	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.
Kumchuk	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.	6.00 P.M.
Kaukong	6.00 P.M. Except Saturdays	6.00 P.M.	6.00 PM.

SHARE LIST.—QUOTATIONS.

HONGKONG, 11TH DECEMBER, 1917.

Stocks.	Paid up Value.	Official Quotation 10.30 A.M.	Closing Quotation.	Last Dividend.
BANKS.—				
Hongkong and Shanghai	$125	$602½, sel. $600, sales		£23/- int. a/c 1917
INSURANCES.—				
Canton	$50	$305, sellers		$25 for 19 5
China Fires	$20	$121, buyers		$9 for 1915
Hongkong Fires	$50	$310		$27 for 1915
North Chinas	$5	T. 115, buy.		30% for 1916
Unions	$100	$730, buyers		$60 for 1915
Yangtsezes	$50	$150, buy.		$21 for 1915
SHIPPING.—				
Douglas S.S. Co.	$50	$80, sellers		$10 for year ending 30.6.17
Canton Steamboats	$15	$18½, sellers		$1.25 for 1916
Indo-China Pref.	$5	$33, buyers		6/- for 1916
Do. Def.	$5	$1.41, sales		60/- for 1916
Star Ferry Co.	$10	$28½		$2.10 for year ending 30.4.17
REFINERIES.—				
China Sugars	$100	$88, buyers		$12 for 1916
Malabon Sugars	P30	$35, buyers		5 Ps. for 1916
DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—				
Kowloon Wharf Co.	$50	$90, buy. $91, sales		$4 and bonus of $2 for 1916
H. and W. Dock Co.	$50	$120, sellers		$2½ int. account 1917
Shanghai Docks	Tls.100	T.73, buyers		Tls. 7½ for year ending 30.4.16
LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—				
Central Estates	$100	$90, buyers		$7 for 1916
Hongkong Hotels	$50	$90, buyers		$3 for ½ year
Hongkong Lands	$100	$90, sales		$3½ int. account 1917
Hongkong Land Reclamation	$75	ellis		$5.25 for 1916
Humphreys Estates	$10	$5¾		50 cents for 1916
Kowloon Lands	$30	$50		$2 for 1916
West Points	$50	$79½, buyers		$3 int. account 1917
OILS.—				
Langkats	G19	Ts. 15		T. 1 for year ending 31.10.16
Shells	$1	112/-, buy.		7/- for 1916
Ural Caspians	$1	30/-		9% for 1915/16
MINING.—				
Kailans	$1	39/-, sellers		1/- int. act. year ending 30.6.17
Raubs	$1	$2½, sales		None since 1910
Tronoh	$1	25/-		4/- int. account 1916
COTTON MILLS.—				
Ewo	Tls. 50	T. 172½, sel.		T. 9 for year ending 31.10.16
Kung Yik	Tls. 10	T. 15½, buy.		T.0.90 for year ending 30.11.16
Oriental C. S. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	T. 40, sel.		Tls. 6 for 1913
Shanghai	Tls. 50	T. 119, buy. T. 120, sales		Tls. 6 for year ending 30.6.17
Yangtszepoo	Tls. 5	£. 6.40, buy.		Nil for 1915
MISCELLANEOUS.—				
China Borneos	$13	$6½, buyers		60 cents for 1916
China Lights	$5	$3½, buyers		None since 1916
China Providents	$10	$7½, buyers		70 cents for 1916
Dairy Farms	$6	$25, buyers		$2 for year ending 31.7.17
Green Island Cement	$7½	$7½, sales		80 cents for 1916
Hongkong Electrics	$10	$48, buyers		$3 for year ending 28.7.17
Hongkong Ices	$25	$150		$2 int. account 1917
Hongkong Ropes	$10	$29½, sellers		$1 int. account 1917
Hongkong Steels	$10	$10		$1 for year ending 31.5.17
Hongkong Trams	5/-	$3.60, sellers		9% int. account 1917
Peak Trams Old	$10	$8½, sellers		7% for year ending
Do. New	$1	$0.90, sellers		do. 30.4.17
Steam Laundries	$5	$8, buyers		35 cents for year ending 31.5.17
Union Waterboats	$7	$12, buyers		$1.25 for 1916
Watson & Co.	$10	$5½, buyers		70 cents for 1916
Wm. Powell, Limited	$7	$6:, sellers		None since 1914

Rubbers. (Singapore Currency).	Paid up Value.	Year Ends.	Latest Quotation.	Dividend for Last Year.	Int Div. to Date.
Alor Gajahs	$1	Sept.	$4.45	65 p. c.	40 p. c.
Ayer Panas	$5	Jan.	$11.80	25 p. c.	—
Glenealy	$1	Oct.	$2.60	30 p. c.	10 p. c.
Kedah	$1	April	$4.10	55 p. c.	10 p. c.
Kempas	$2	June	$9.25	40 p. c.	—
Malaka Pinda	$1	Aug.	$2.85	33 p. c.	—
Malakoff	$2	Dec.	$4.50	30 p. c.	15 p. c.
New Serendah	$2	Dec.	$4.60	25 p. c.	10 p. c.
Sandycroft	$2	Jan.	$4.70	30 p. c.	12½ p. c.
Tapah	$10	Dec.	$21.50	35 p. c.	10 p. c.
Quotation Rubber in London			2.4½		

VERNON & SMYTH. Share Brokers.

COMMERCIAL.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

December 11th

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	3/-
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	3/-½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	3/1
Documentary Bills 4 months' sight	3/1⅛
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	413
Credits, at 4 months' sight	427½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	71⅛
Credits, at 60 days' sight	—
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	—
Bank Bills, on demand	nom
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	—
Bank Bills, on demand	nom.
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank Bills, at sight	nom.
Private, 30 days' sight	—
ON YOKOHAMA.—On demand	137½
ON MANILA.—On demand—Pesos	142
ON SINGAPORE.—On demand	126⅞
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	163½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	1½ % pm.p.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	1 ⅞pm p.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	51⅛
SOVEREIGN Bank's Buying Rate	$ 6.60 n.
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	$44.00
BAR SILVER per oz	42⅝d.

SUBSIDIARY COINS

	per cent.
Hongkong ...20 cents. pieces	$0.00 Premium
Hongkong ...10 "	$0.08 Discount
Canton .....20 "	$7.00 "
Canton .....10 "	$0.00 "

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Saturday, 15th Dec.:—
General Holiday.
Tuesday, 25th Dec.:—
Christmas Day—Public Holiday.
Tuesday, 1st Jan.:—
New Year Day—Public Holiday.

香港中外新報

CHUNG NGOI SAN PO
(Chinese Daily Press).
PUBLISHED DAILY.

Is the oldest and still immeasurably the best Advertising medium among the Native Community.
Established for over FIFTY YEARS.
Circulates largely throughout Southern China, Indo-China, etc.

Terms for Advertising (Translation free) can be obtained at the Office, 10A, Des Vœux Road Central, Hongkong, 131, Fleet Street, London or from the different Agents.

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Sweetness, Coolness, Infinite Satisfaction—a feeling of Supreme Content.

The man who enjoys a Virginia Cigarette and has never Smoked 'Three Castles' has yet to taste perfection.

The "THREE CASTLES" CIGARETTES

"There's no sweeter tobacco comes from Virginia and no better brand than the 'Three Castles'."
THACKERAY—The Virginians.

Save the coupons—they are Valuable

W.D. & H.O. WILLS
Bristol and London.

This advertisement is issued by British American Tobacco Co., Ltd. [19

ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS TREE
WITH COLOURED LIGHTS
AND
COMIC FIGURES.

FOR CHRISTMAS PARTIES.
On hire with wire and plugs complete.

COLOURED LAMPS FOR DECORATIONS.

FANCY ELECTRIC FITTINGS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

WM. C. JACK & CO., LTD..
14, DES VŒUX ROAD, HONGKONG. [27

BANKS

BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE.

CAPITAL (½ Paid up) ... ... Francs 45,000,000
(1/3 of the Capital subscribed by the Government of the Chinese Republic).
Chairman of the Board of Directors } André Berthelot,
General Manager } A. J. Ferrette.

HEAD OFFICE:
74, Rue Saint Lazare, PARIS.
BRANCHES:
PEKING, SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN, HONGKONG, SAIGON.
BANKERS:
IN FRANCE: Société Générale pour favoriser le Développement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France.
IN LONDON: London County & Westminster Bank, Ltd.
IN NEW YORK: Redmond & Co.

Telegraphic Address: CHIBANKIND.

Interest allowed on Current Accounts and Fixed Deposits. Terms on application.
Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

M. ROUET DE JOURNEL,
Manager.
HONGKONG BRANCH.
Queen's Buildings,
5, Chater Road. Tel. No. 2352.
Hongkong, 14th May, 1917. [635

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed on the Minimum Monthly Balances at 3½ per cent. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of $100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 per cent. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 2nd November, 1914. [10

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.
HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

Paid-up Capital... ... ... £1,200,000
Reserve Fund £1,900,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors £1,200,000

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking business transacted.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and FIXED DEPOSITS received for 1 year or shorter periods at rates which will be quoted on application.

T. C. DOWNING,
Manager.
Hongkong, 8th May 1917. [141

BANKS

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital $15,000,000
Reserve Funds:—
Sterling
£1,500,000, at 2/— $15,000,000
Silver $18,500,000
$33,500,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors $15,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell—Chairman.
Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak—Deputy Chairman.
Hon. Mr. C. E. Anton, E. C. Butcher, Esq., A. H. Compton, Esq, G. T. M. Edkins, Esq., C. S. Gubbay, Esq., E. V. D. Parr, Esq., W. L. Pattenden, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:
Hongkong—N. J. STABB, Esq.

MANAGER:
Shanghai—A. G. STEPHENS, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS:
LONDON COUNTY AND WESTMINSTER BANK, LIMITED.

HONGKONG INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Account at the rate of Two per cent. per annum on the Daily Balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS.
For 3 months, 2½ per cent. per annum.
" 6 " 3½ " "
" 12 " 4 " "

N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager.
Hongkong, 13th July, 1917. [9

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: 15, Gracechurch St., London

Authorised Capital	... ...	£1,500,000
Subscribed "	... ...	1,125,000
Paid-up "	... ...	562,500
Reserve Fund "	... ...	800,000

BANKERS:
THE BANK OF ENGLAND,
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LIMITED.

BRANCHES:
Bombay, Calcutta, Colombo, Delhi, Galle, Hongkong, Howrah, Kandy, Karachi, Kota Bhara, Kuala Lumpur, Madras, Penang, Rangoon, Shanghai, Singapore, Port Louis (Mauritius).

HONGKONG BRANCH.
Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

INTEREST allowed on Current Accounts at 2 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances and on Fixed Deposits at rates that may be ascertained on application.

C. CHAMPKIN
Acting Manager.
No. 7, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 26th May, 1916. [887

BANKS

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED
(TAIWAN GINKO).

INCORPORATED BY SPECIAL IMPERIAL CHARTER, 1899.

Capital Subscribed	... ...	Yen 20,000,000
Capital Paid-up	... ...	" 20,000,000
Reserve Funds	... ...	" 5,380,000

HEAD OFFICE:
TAIPEH, FORMOSA.

BRANCHES:
JAPAN—KOBE, OSAKA, TOKYO & YOKOHAMA.
FORMOSA—AKO, GIRAN, KAGI, KARENKEI, KEELUNG, MAKUNG, PINAN, SHINCHIKU, TAICHU, TAIWAN, TAKOW, TAMSUI.
CHINA—AMOY, CANTON, FOOCHOW, HANKOW, KIUKIANG, SHANGHAI, SWATOW.
OTHERS—BOMBAY, HONGKONG, LONDON, SINGAPORE, SOERABAIA, SEMARANG AND NEW YORK.

LONDON BANKERS:
Capital and Counties Bank, London, and South-Western Bank, Parr's Bank.

The Bank has Correspondents in the Commercial centres of Russia, Manchuria, India, China, India, Philippine Islands, Java, Australia, America, and elsewhere.

Interest allowed on Current Account, Fixed Deposits, and Savings Deposits at rates which will be quoted on application.

N. YANAGITA,
Manager.
HONGKONG BRANCH,
3, Des Vœux Road.
Hongkong, 1st December, 1917. [609

THE BANK OF CHINA
GOVERNMENT BANK.

(SPECIALLY AUTHORISED BY PRESIDENTIAL MANDATE OF 15TH APRIL, 1913.)

Authorised Capital	... ...	$60,000,000
Paid-up Capital	... ...	$10,000,000

HEAD OFFICE—PEKING.

BRANCHES AND SUB-BRANCHES.
SHANGHAI: NANKING: Chinkiang, Yangchow, Wusieh, Wuhu, Anshing, Tatung, Tsinkiangpo, Soochow. HANKOW: Shashi, Ichang, Nanchang. TIENTSIN: Paoting, Tongshan, Luanhsien, Tsangchien, Hsingtai. HANGCHOW: Wenchow, Shaohsing, Chikshin, Lanchi, Huchow, Ningpo. KAIFENG: Changteh, Sinyang, Loha, Chowkwa. TSINAN: Chowtsun, Tsechien, Linshi, Lintsing, Tsinien, Yihtsh, Hsiming, Chefoo, Tsingtao. TAIYUAN: Yuncheng. FOOCHOW. CHANGCHUN: Kirin, Moukden, Newchwang, Dairen, Harbin, Tsitsihar, Tieling, Chinchow, Antung. CANTON. KUNITANG: PEKING: Kwaihwa's Suiyuanheang, etc., etc.

CANTON BRANCH.
Interest allowed on current accounts and Fixed Deposits. Terms on application. Every description of Banking business transacted; loans granted on approved security. Special facilities for Home Remittances.
Hongkong 12th October, 1914. [188

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